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THURSDAY, JANUARY 22ND, 2015

Attack on GEM over
Welsh language page
(See Page 19)



Wales and the Six Nations

SEE PREVIEW FEATURE ON PAGE 17



CONCERN IS VOICED BY COUNCILLOR OVER £3.5m 'EXIT' CASH

GEM REPORT by
TIM CHAPMAN

AN independent councillor says he is concerned by some Vale Council 'exit packages' that totalled over £3.5m in a four year period.

Coun Phil Clarke, who represents Rhoose, sits on the 'voluntary early retirement or voluntary redundancy committee'.

Coun Clarke told The GEM: "Since my election to the council I have been a member of the committee and I'm unable to be specific about details from the committee meetings since the reports are considered in a confidential setting and deal with personal details of council employees.

"That said, I have frequently questioned the rewarding of discretionary compensation payments during these meetings, as opposed to the legally-required statutory payments to staff leaving the council.

"In these days of austerity, we need to take care with every pound spent, so perhaps the council should reconsider its policy with regard to discretionary payments."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

RHWS PUPILS MAKE A SPLASH!



Rhws nursery pupils in their puddle suits.
SEE FULL STORY ON PAGE 6.

As Post Offices close... Company insists 'it's NOT rationalisation'

POST OFFICE closures in Barry are not part of a policy of rationalisation, a spokesman for the company has told The GEM.

In the early months of this year another two branches in the town will have closed – one at Highlight Park (Lloyds Pharmacy)

and Colcot Road (Co-op).

Vale-wide, Cowbridge too has lost its post office which closed last April.

Although some transactions can be done online, such as road tax, many people, particularly the elderly, rely on Post Office

services.

In the case of Highlight Park and Cowbridge, the local MP, Alun Cairns, has campaigned to find new locations for branches – but so far drawn a blank.

He said: "I have a number of concerns about the process undertaken by the Post Office over planned changes to sites in the Vale including Cowbridge."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)



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PRAISE FOR FIREFIGHTERS



I WAS unfortunate enough to be involved with the extremely frightening lightning strike on our neighbours' houses in the early hours of Wednesday morning, January 14.

As the Tummon family's neighbours, we were delighted to help them and to accommodate them, as their house was full of smoke and dangerous to be in – so naturally, I called the Fire Brigade.

Considering that they had to come from Barry

'I CAN'T RELY ON THE BUS'

putting livelihoods at risk.

The Government and politicians are constantly telling people to use public transport, but when it is unreliable (as it currently is) then you can't risk it.

To get into Cardiff for a 10.30am shift start you have to get the 8.30am bus, which takes over an hour. When it then runs late (by usually 10–15 minutes) you risk being late, despite trying to leave home two hours before the shift starts. M Jones, St Athan.

'Clean up mess on pavements'

I WOULD like to make a plea to the small number of inconsiderate dog walkers of Boverton and Llantwit Major.

Please clean up after your animals! It is disgusting to have to navigate the streets of the area dodging piles of excrement.

It is also strange how an owner seems to make the effort to bag their dog's mess, but then discards the bag on the floor. Please be more considerate. Dave Gordin, Llantwit Major.

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Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

LETTERS AND E-MAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. An email address alone is not sufficient!

We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested.

'Destructive LDP has handed over rural Vale to the planners'

THE fate of Colwinston expressed in Elizabeth Nash's compelling letter (GEM January 15) exposes what a destructive process the LDP has been for the rural Vale.

Back in 2012, the Conservatives' LDP promised moderate growth in a number of villages, bringing sustainable development and much-needed affordable housing.

Instead, we saw a strategy for the rural Vale that Labour was to emulate when it took control in May 2012: massive expansion in a minority of villages like Colwinston, Ystradnewydd and Wick; an unexplained refusal to propose a new settlement at Llandow Newydd, which would greatly ease the pressure on Vale villages; and the elimination of protective settlement boundaries around 24 Vale villages.

The rural communities at least had the assurance from the new Labour council that in its LDP consultation, their views would be properly considered, with the ultimate safeguard of a quasi-judicial assessment of the council's proposals by an independent Welsh Government planning inspector. Paul Jeremy, Vale Villages Together network.

'JUDGE AND JURY'

With Colwinston as the latest example, the Vale Council has approved a whole series of planning applications for the very sites it proposed in its LDP, thus denying a growing list of Vale communities the chance for their development to be carefully assessed by the LDP inspector.

A combination of developers' indifference to community rights and the council's use of national planning loopholes has enabled the latter to become judge and jury in its own cases, rather than the LDP inspector.

It has already notched up the fait accompli of 450 houses in the villages, with another 124 likely in Wick shortly. The Welsh Government Planning Division expressed great concern in December 2013 about the scale of rural housing development proposed by this council.

However, when the LDP inspector comes later this year to his inquiry, there will be little left for him to assess in the rural Vale. It is win-win for developers and a Labour-dominated council intent on maximising rural build to reduce the housing

'ENTRANCE TO WAITROSE HAZARD TO PEDESTRIANS'

IT is my opinion that the entrance to Waitrose store on Cowbridge High Street is a danger to pedestrians.

The entrance is too narrow with many vehicles trying to enter and leave the store, with little regard to people trying to cross

the road. The town hall car park being opposite to the entrance to Waitrose is causing traffic to take risks to exit both car parks.

I would suggest the highways department look into this before someone is hurt. Michael J Hill, Sigginsstone.

See more readers' letters to the Editor on page 19.

pressures in its greater Barry heartlands.

We have yet to face a whole series of windfall applications in numerous Vale villages if the settlement boundaries disappear.

The Welsh Government has a heavy responsibility for creating the planning blight which is unfolding before our eyes in the rural Vale.

It has failed to protect communities' rights under the LDP – they have no legal redress. Furthermore it sent in December 2013 a clear message to this council that it should build more houses at an accelerated rate.

In practice the fate of this beautiful area of Wales has been handed over to a handful of planning consultants and planning officers.

The crowning insult in this chaotic story of national and local misgovernment in strategic planning is that residents at the receiving end of all this cannot even hold accountable those councillors responsible for these planning decisions: very likely there will be no further Vale Council election!

Paul Jeremy, Vale Villages Together network.

Hidden threat to respite centres

FURTHER to your article 'Future is uncertain for popular local respite centre' in The GEM on January 8, there are no other respite care facilities in this area.

Whilst the charges at this venue are extremely expensive, even without any actual care package being required, it does allow for carers to have a break for holidays, etc.

How when Cartrefi Cymru charity took control of this facility does not appear to have been made public, and as this respite centre was built with money from the Welsh Church Fund, surely there should have been public consultation before it was handed over to new trustees?

These trustees now seem to be saying that they can no longer manage the respite centre as a financial going concern.

My fear is that this community asset will end its days in a similar manner to The Porthcawl Rest, which was a miners' rehabilitation care centre, on one of the most desirable re-development sites in Wales. Lost and gone forever.

Can anyone advise how much this sale

raised and how the money has been used? Community facilities are fast disappearing in south Wales, with very little consultation or information being given to the public.

It appears that boards of trustees can say they no longer wish or are able to run these valued community facilities and they can change hands without consultation or formal information being forthcoming to the community.

Where the Charity Commission comes into the scenario is a mystery.

With newspapers disappearing, there will be even less source for information such as you published, regarding the possible loss of a respite care centre facility in Porthcawl to become public knowledge.

That leaves even more scope for community facilities to disappear before the community is aware of it.

Avril Lake, Porthcawl.

Editor's note: Never fear, Ms Lake, while the print media as a whole is certainly facing a challenge, The GEM, for one, is rising to it and will, as ever, remain vigilant!

Vale connection with the 'Murrow Boys'

FEW people alive in the Vale of Glamorgan will recall Richard Hotelet, who died recently aged 97. He was one of the 'Murrow Boys' recruited by Edward R Murrow of CBS, to report from the front line in World War Two.

Certainly, the thousands of US troops stationed in the Vale of Glamorgan would have known his voice well – as would their families back in the USA.

He was unique as he was the son of German US immigrants, born in Brooklyn. Speaking fluent German, he went to work in Berlin and was incarcerated by the Gestapo for four months, accused of spying; only the intervention of the US Ambassador saved him.

During the subsequent conflict, Hotelet reported on the D-Day landings, the Battle of the Bulge in the Ardennes (exactly 70 years ago) and the invasion of Germany.

He was shot down east of the Rhine and parachuted into the company of British soldiers who revived him with hot tea, laced with single malt whisky!

Rumours persist that he was a spy. Certainly, the Abwehr (German Military Intelligence)

and the Gestapo were so convinced, he was captured and exchanged as part of a trade for three suspected spies in the US.

He also had a British girlfriend, whom he later married – Ann Delafield, who worked for the British Foreign service in Spain, under Kim Philby (later exposed as a Soviet spy).

Hotelet passed information to her and therefore unwittingly to Soviet Russia, via Philby, who ended his life in Moscow with a senior rank in the KGB. Hotelet continued in Europe after the war, and his marriage to Delafield lasted 71 years. In 2006, he returned to his wartime HQ in London at 84 Hallam Street, and unveiled a memorial plaque.

One of his iconic broadcasts had been from above the D-Day beaches: "This is Richard Hotelet reporting... the Allied forces landed in France early this morning. I watched the first landing craft hit the beach exactly on the minute of H-hour."

Were any of those troops previously stationed in south Wales? Almost certainly, yes.

He died just before Christmas 2014. RIP. Christopher Short, Barry.

Council bouquet!

WELL done to the Vale Council's highways department for the resurfacing of Park Road.

This was carried out efficiently and in very good time. As a resident of the area, I would like to express my thanks for a job well done.

Happy New Year to you all!
Jose Tancock, Barry.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JANUARY 29)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20–25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
22 Thur	07.31	10.7	20.41	10.4
23 Fri	08.21	10.8	20.44	10.5
24 Sat	09.07	10.5	21.25	10.1
25 Sun	09.52	10.1	22.12	9.7
26 Mon	10.38	9.7	22.58	9.1
27 Tues	11.29	8.9	23.55	8.5
28 Wed			12.29	8.3
29 Thur	00.57	8.1	13.36	7.9

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

We abide by the code of practice upheld by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). This contains provisions for issues such as accuracy.

If you have a complaint, write to us at the address below, left, or call editorial manager Don John on 01446 774484. All complaints will be fully investigated. If you are not satisfied with the outcome, you may wish to contact IPSO c/o Halton House, 20-23 High Holborn, London EC1N 2JD. Website: www.ipso.co.uk. Tel: 0300 123 2220. E-Mail: complaints@ipso.co.uk. Enquiries: inquiries@ipso.co.uk.

Documentary follows bid to showcase GlastonBarry

AN independent documentary that follows two Barry men as they strive to put on a music festival to showcase the town and its musical talent, is to get its first screening in February.

Waking up Barry follows cousins Ross Mackintosh and Matt Blumberg in the months leading up to the festival as they seek to promote the event, gain support from the people of Barry and find themselves a local act to open the named 'GlastonBarry' festival.

Narrated by S4C's Llinoes Lee and featuring the likes of Steffan Rhodri (BBC's Gavin and Stacey) and Neil Ruddock (former Liverpool and England footballer and TV personality), the film takes in open mic nights, planning meetings, radio interviews, band battles and the festival itself.

The film's director, Mark Woods said: "This has been a great first project for me and it is exciting that people are

now going to get chance to see the film and see the work and dedication of Matt and Ross to do something positive for the town of Barry."

Ross Mackintosh, of Mack Events, explained: "I think what is interesting about the film is that it captures us at a time that was vital for the venture.

"We knew if anything went wrong we were finished, and I think our determination to make it work comes across in the film".

The two men had to organise the venue, the marquee, staffing, refreshments and host an evening with Neil Ruddock.

Waking up Barry will get its first showing at an exclusive event to be held at Barry Masonic Hall on February 28.

In addition to a screening of the film the event will also act as a launch party for the film.

For more information, contact mackevents@hotmail.co.uk.

MERTHYR STREET residents in Barry say they are fed up with an area behind their houses being used as a tip.

They told The GEM it wasn't the only place in the town where it was happening and hoped councillors get "on the ball" in dealing with the issue.

The GEM approached the Vale Council to find out what was happening there.

The works manager, Colin Smith, explained:

"While the land in question is privately owned, the council's senior enforcement officer and the community support officer for the area have been co-ordinating an initiative which engages the police, local businesses, local youth offending teams, and various other partners."

Mr Smith added: "This specific area is scheduled for a co-ordinated clean with all partners next week. Once this is done, the council's enforcement team will patrol the area to ensure there is no re-offending."

Vale Council officers have also had a meeting with a representative of the owners, who agreed that once the site is cleared, they will put up a fence to stop any further offending.

"The enforcement team, the police, and the fire service, along with residents from Merthyr



ABOVE: Tipping point – the Vale Council has agreed with Merthyr Street residents that the area should be cleared – and says it will continue to monitor the area.

Street, have visited the businesses on Holton Road regarding the fly tipping, and have emphasised the importance of keeping the alley gates locked."

Mr Smith added:

"This specific area is scheduled for a co-ordinated clean with all partners next week. Once this is done, the council's enforcement team will patrol the area to ensure there is no re-offending."

Police say a fight broke out between a group of men in Bar 44, which resulted in a 55-year-old man suffering injuries to his face.

Anyone who was in the bar at the time and saw the incident, or has any information, is asked to contact South Wales Police on 101, quoting reference number 1400454761.

Alternatively, Crimestoppers can be called free and anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

PENARTH ASSAULT: Man suffered facial injuries

SOUTH Wales Police are appealing for witnesses after an assault in Bar 44, Penarth on Friday, December 5, at around 11pm.

Police say a fight broke out between a group of men in Bar 44, which resulted in a 55-year-old man suffering injuries to his face.

Anyone who was in the bar at the time and saw the incident, or has any information, is asked to contact South Wales Police on 101, quoting reference number 1400454761.

Alternatively, Crimestoppers can be called free and anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

Police appeal after teenager assaulted near Mount Sorrel

SOUTH Wales police. The young woman is understandably extremely distressed at this time.

"Specially trained officers have been offering her all the necessary support and assistance she requires," Det Sgt Warner said.

South Wales Police are urging anyone with any information about this incident to contact them on 101, quoting reference number 1400470003.

Alternatively, Crimestoppers can be called free and anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Barry National Spiritualist Church & Centre presents an evening of Mediumship with Alun Harvard

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The Penarth and District Ramblers take in the history of Cardiff

IN brisk winds and rain, Sylvia and eight Penarth and District Ramblers set off across Pont y Werin, Cardiff Bay, before joining part of the Ely Trail across Leckwith Road and into Sanatorium Park.

Crossing the railway bridge and entering Victoria Park and pausing for a coffee break in sunshine, the evidence of damage from the high winds overnight lay around them.

They tramped along Romilly Road and passed the lovely statue of Joyce in Thompson's Park before climbing up to Pencisely Road, then across Penhill where Llandaff Fields led to Cogan.

The following day Wilf Wooller Road, from Portobello, beside the River Ogmor, 12

renowned Welsh walkers including leader cricketer, rugby star and journalist.

From Pontcanna Fields, the footbridge at Blackweir, where the River Taff was thundering over the weir, led into Bute Park.

After an early lunch of hot soup at the Secret Garden Café, their route headed through Sophia Gardens and along the embankment beside the river and through Hamadryad Park, led into Cardiff Bay.

Circumnavigating the usual sights at Cardiff Bay and making their return across the Cardiff Barrage against a blustery strong headwind, their return was via paths beside Penarth Marina back to Cogan.

Deviating to the walled garden, the only part left of Dunraven Castle, and with most people appreciating an early stop for lunch and a hot drink, in preparation for the blustery headwind outside the stone walls, fields with stone stiles led uphill into Southerndown.

Then, tramping a narrow bridle path and a lane through the quiet hamlet of Norton, before heading south to overlook the Ogmor Estuary, sandy paths though the dunes brought them back to their start.

On January 24, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a nine-mile moderate walk taking in the Rhymney Valley and North Cardiff Criags; contact Liz on 029 2051 3698.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks.

Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, contact the walk leader for advice.

Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

JOY STRANGWARD

The choir was conducted by Miss Alice Jones, and was accompanied by Mr Christopher Fossey.

The evening was well attended, and with such a diverse programme, it was immensely enjoyed by everyone.

The choir was fortunate enough to have as their guest artist Miss Rebecca Davies, who played the violin with such feeling, delighting everyone in the audience.

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£3.5m in payoffs made to Vale Council staff

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Coun Clarke went on: "Information that is publicly available in the council's statement of accounts shows exit packages awarded to personnel earning in excess of £60,000 between 2010 and 2014 was £3,573,824."

The Vale Council emphasises that it operates an avoiding redundancy policy and reports all payments in the annual statement of accounts.

Coun Phil Clarke pointed out: "The 2013-14 statement reveals that three top managers were compensated in 2012 with the maximum amount allowable within the council's policy.

"All this is a lot of taxpayers' money which could be used for other council services."

"Many members of this committee have a trade union background but my professional life has always been within the private sector."

He says care should be taken with taxpayers' money.

Coun Clarke said he was very interested by a letter published in the press by Coun Mike Powell, on the situation at Rhondda Cynon Taff Council.

Coun Powell said: "These discretionary payments are supposed to be used in exceptional circumstances only. RCT has been holding them

out like free toys at McDonalds for years."

Coun Clarke added: "We do need to question the need for discretionary expenditure of public money in times of austerity, especially when efforts are being made to cut front line services such as libraries when I believe we should be looking at the backroom costs first."

The GEM asked the Vale Council two questions: Can there be justification for paying out more to people than is legally required? Does the council feel there is sufficient scrutiny of payments of a discretionary nature?

The head of human resources, Reuben Bergman,

said: "The council will always endeavour to avoid redundancies and redundancy payments as part of its agreed 'avoiding redundancy' policy."

"Where redundancies are necessary then payments are made in accordance with the council's statutory requirements and related discretionary provisions."

"The business case for all redundancy payments are considered and determined by the council's 'early retirement and redundancy committee' and all payments are reported in the council's annual statement of accounts."

Post Office closures

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Mr Cairns added: "I don't want residents in Barry and the wider Vale to miss out on what I consider to be a vital service."

"Today (Tuesday) I called on the Post Office to prioritise the sites in Barry and Cowbridge. I will keep pressing the case to the operators - local people and small business owners need a post facility nearby."

It means people are having to travel out of their local area to use a post office - in the case of people in Cowbridge a trip to Llantwit Major is necessary.

The spokesman insisted:

"There is absolutely no rationalisation or closure plan for Post Offices in the Vale, or anywhere else for that matter."

This week, the Vale's

AM Jane Hutt met with a senior Post Office manager.

She said: "I had a positive discussion with Mr Andrew Tamplin, who confirmed that work is under way to find new providers in Cowbridge and Barry, and the Post Office would be very interested to hear from anybody with an interest in taking on these valuable services."

"Making sure that Cowbridge has a post office is a priority for me and I will not give up trying to find a solution

for Highlight Park and Colcot Road. I will be meeting this week with the Co-op, regarding the closure of its Colcot single day in the £2 billion programme."

"When a Post Office agent retires or resigns the local field team work tirelessly to try and find another operator to take on the running of the service."

"We are very sorry for any inconvenience caused while we search for a new operator for the branches."

The spokesman made an appeal to local retailers in Barry.

"We would like to reassure customers that we remain committed to provide Post Office services in the network in Wales at its community."

She said: "I had a positive discussion with Mr Andrew Tamplin, who confirmed that work is under way to find new providers in Cowbridge and Barry, and the Post Office would be very interested to hear from anybody with an interest in taking on these valuable services."

"Alongside all this Derek was founder member of 2nd Barry Boys' Brigade and worked tirelessly as Officer in Charge for over 20 years, helping a great many young boys gain their Duke of Edinburgh awards.

The young people of Barry owe a great deal to Derek and it would be good to see this acknowledged in the way Coun Bertin suggests.

Brenda A Rees, Barry.

WHAT'S ON / in brief

Mayor's coffee

THE Vale of Glamorgan Mayor is hosting a charity coffee morning in aid of Wales Air Ambulance on Tuesday, January 27 from 10.30am - 12 noon in the Civic Office, Barry. All are welcome.

TO LET ON LICENCE

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- Hot Food Concession, Ogmor-by-Sea Site 2
- Ice Cream Concession, Ogmor-by-Sea Site 1
- Ice Cream Concession, Ogmor-by-Sea Site 2
- Combined Hot and Cold Concession, Southerndown
- Combined Hot and Cold Concession, Cold Knap

Closing date for receipt of completed Tenders is **12 NOON MONDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2015**

Contact: Dean Lacey, Estates Section, The Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU Tel: 01446 709335 Email: delacey@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk



Mayor's charity funds defibrillator in Penarth town

THE Mayor of Penarth, Coun Neil Thomas, raised £1,297.42 for his chosen charities, the British Heart Foundation and Penarth Youth Project during his

Railway society's Penarth meeting



ABOVE: GBRF at Newport.

BARRY Railway Society is to meet at Penarth Conservative Club, 15 Stanwell Road, Penarth (CF52EZ) from 7.30pm to 10pm, Thursday, January 29.

The entrance fee is only £1 and all rail enthusiasts are welcome.

There will be a video presentation of railways in south Wales in 2015, including new American-built locomotives being unloaded at Newport docks; Taffy Tug railtour of the valleys; driver training at the Barry Island Railway; mainline steam in the area, and a Goodyear airship flight over Cardiff.

PANTO FUN

FRIENDS and **Neighbours'** 2015 programme started with an amazing visit to the New Theatre to watch Cinderella with a star-studded cast including Lee Mead, Mike Doyle and sporting hero Gareth Thomas.

Plaid man to fight Vale seat

PLAID CYMRU – the Party of Wales, has confirmed that Barry town and Vale of Glamorgan councillor Ian Johnson will be its Vale candidate at the general election on May 7.

He was elected to the Vale Council in 2012 for the Buttrill's ward, and Plaid group leader Coun Chris Franks said: "In council, Ian Johnson has led debates calling for the regeneration of Barry, exposed flaws in the Local Development Plan and criticised unfair council cuts when they hurt local people, raising awareness of the decisions taken by the council."

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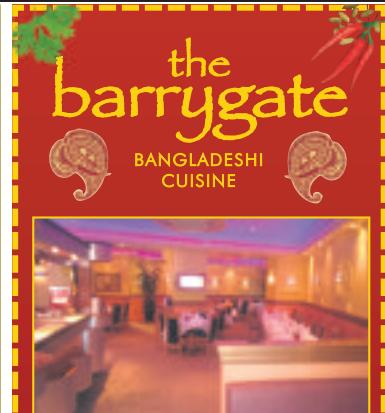
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Penarth pupil wins Disney prize for Fairfield school



Infant winner, Mustafa Hussain (middle), and runners-up, Eilidh Chisholm (right) and Samantha Brown (left).

FAIRFIELD Primary School, Penarth, will receive funding towards sports equipment courtesy of Disney after one of its pupils was highly commended in a national healthy living competition, run as part of National Obesity Awareness Week 2015.

Mustafa Hussain secured a 'highly commended' spot in his age category out of hundreds of entries after submitting a picture diary demonstrating how he remained active every day for a week.

In partnership with Disney, the competition was launched to promote physical activity, in order to tackle obesity. Children and young people across the country were asked to keep and submit a physical activity diary for a week (infant and junior age groups); or to create a new and unique game or sport (secondary school age group).

Barrivale Bridge Club results

THE latest results from Barrivale Bridge Club (January 13) are as follows:

First, Simon Gottschalk; and Simon Richards, 61.46 per cent; second, Mike Close and Tim Barsby, 60.07 per cent; third, Mick Green and Kay Dyer, 56.94 per cent.

Bryn Gough and Dave Reed won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required. For more information telephone 01446 418380 or 01446 733425, or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

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The rain fails to stop play at Rhws school!



The Rhws Futsal leaders.

WITH the windy and wet weather setting in, free play and structured physical activity on the school field is becoming a distant memory.

So, Rhws Primary School have taken a proactive approach and have introduced Futsal to their Key Stage 2 pupils, as a game which builds on pupils' enthusiasm for football but can be played on a playground surface.

It has famously been promoted by world cup icons such as Lionel Messi and those players who have come from a foundation of Futsal have a confidence with the ball which continues to leave other players in awe.

The priority in Futsal is to motivate players in an environment that is conducive to learning. The more pleasure children get, the more they want to play and practice on their own. While their instinct to play is natural, their

affection and appreciation for football must be nurtured and developed.

Futsal is having a really positive effect on pupils' participation in physical activity at break times at Rhws, with new pupils wanting to get involved and play every day.

It is a very inclusive form of football that allows children of all abilities to achieve and develop their skills and confidence. It is also having a positive effect on pupils' behaviour and is allowing pupils to develop a level of sportsmanship that is sometimes lacking in competitive football matches.

Year 6 pupils have also taken on leadership roles and are leading and officiating futsal games with the younger pupils. We may well have some future coaches in the making!

The wet weather doesn't hold pupils back during curriculum time

either, thanks to the hard work and commitment of a small group of parents and volunteers that make up the 'Friends of Rhws Primary (FORP)' group.

FORP have invested some of the money they have raised in enhancing pupils' learning experiences in the great outdoors. In 2011, schools inspectorate Estyn said that children under five learn better and develop quicker with outdoor lessons.

Now, pupils are able to access the outdoors in all weathers at Rhws thanks to FORP who have bought wet weather suits (see photo on page 1) which can be used by Foundation Phase pupils allowing them to access outdoor learning whatever the weather. The weather may not be bright but the future is for pupils at Rhws Primary School.

Kelly Toshack, acting deputy head

Spring Wedding Fayres

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'How the Cardiff Airport can really take off' - GEM reader

I READ with interest Dr Alex Rees's letter in The GEM edition of January 15 and I agree with the comments.

Having visited Auckland Airport on many occasions and used the mini bus shuttle, it is a good swift service at an affordable price. Cardiff could do the same, a 12 or 15 seater would be sufficient.

Expanding Dr Rees' comments on attracting low cost carriers to use the airport, the management of the airport, plus the owners (viz the Welsh Government) should contact all the airlines that fly to and from the eastern seaboard of North America to suggest that they terminate their incoming flights at Cardiff, and also start their outgoing flights from Cardiff.

What are the advantages? By avoiding the congestion at

Heathrow, passengers can be transferred to the First Great Western train service to London Paddington. Transfer the passengers by coach to Cardiff Central Station and let them board the hourly service that the train company provides.

Let the airlines group together and charter trains from First Great Western to start at Rhoose station straight to London Paddington. Then they can bus the passengers to Rhoose Station.

The reverse can happen for outbound flights with check-in counters at London Paddington to take the passengers' checked-in baggage straight to Cardiff Airport.

There would also be check-in counters at the airport for those wishing to travel separately.

What will this do? Relieve the pressure on Heathrow and perhaps save the building of a third runway if agreed by all

interested parties, by freeing up quite a number of slots at Heathrow.

It would give a tourism boost to Wales as the tourist board will have a great opportunity to promote the attractions and countryside of Wales.

This possible solution could very well attract low cost airlines.

With BA maintenance business already based at the airport, they may like to expand their service to looking after other airlines' aircraft requiring short term maintenance while waiting to fly back to America.

This may sound pie in the sky, but when you start to look at the logistics of such a move, it could prove advantageous in more ways than one.

John A Mason,
Barry.

Water activities centre makes more progress

BARRY
Community Water Activities Centre took another major step forward this week with the signing of the land lease. This follows the signing of the water access licence last week.

The land lease is for the agreed site at the east end of 'the Mole', which is the land that juts out into No 1 Dock, and is opposite Morrison's Supermarket.

The trustees (pictured, right) signed the land lease with ABP so that the slipway and infrastructure works can start as soon as the building consortium complete the new road to the Mole, which spurs off the new Barry Island road.

The chairman, Chris Basten, said: "This is an ideal site for the training in sailing, canoeing, rowing in fact almost every form of



The lease is signed.

water sports.

"We are delighted to have concluded the land and water leases and licences, which means we can create a community facility that will make great use of the Barry Waterfront, and hopefully inspire

people to take to the water."

An updated website has been launched along with a fundraising scheme at bcwac.org.uk.

The community voluntary organisation is seeking more volunteers, supporters,

partners, users, and especially funding streams and grants.

Several phases will result in a very special building that can accommodate training, changing rooms, showers, toilets, and other related facilities.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (WENVOE PUBLIC FOOTPATH Nos. 21&22) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2014

On the 21st January 2015 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:

The Order will come into force on 23rd January 2015 and will be known as "The Vale of Glamorgan Council Wenvoe Public Footpath Nos 21&22 (Temporary Closure) Order 2015".

If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 21st January 2015 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall proceed on foot in the locations specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location Wenvoe Public Footpath Nos 21&22, shall be closed throughout their lengths.

Alt. Route During these closures a diversion via Wenvoe Public Footpath No 20, Port Road, Old Port Road, Walston Road and Clos Lanfair will be available.

Reason To maintain public safety during construction works.
Duration From 6.00am on Monday 26th January 2015 for a maximum period of six months.

Dated this 22nd day of January 2015

M. E. Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing,
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe, CF5 6AA.



SCHOOLS JOIN AFRICAN CHILDREN IN CONCERT



The African Childrens Choir perform at Holton Primary School.

Speaker tells story of wartime drama at sea

CAPTAIN Dave Jones, the speaker at last week's Barry Men's Forum, recounted his nautical career, from leaving his home in Swansea at the age of 15.

He went to Merseyside, where he signed up as a naval cadet on *HMS Conway*. Unfortunately, due to the outbreak of the war, his cadetship was delayed until he was aged 16.

He was awarded his cadet ship on September 3, 1939. He was classed as the junior of junior cadets and served five years on active service. He ended up in America, where he sailed in three different fleets as a 4th Navigational Officer.

He missed all his youth because he spent all his time attending nautical courses at both Cardiff and London Universities. He served seven consecutive naval tours around the world.

In January 1942, just south of the equator, his ship was torpedoed by a German U-boat (U156).

Unfortunately, Dave was in the shower when the torpedo struck.

He grabbed his life jacket and tried to get on deck, but the exit door was so badly buckled that it could not be opened. He returned to a porthole that had been blown out by the explosion.

In his panic to escape, he forgot all his training and put his life jacket on before climbing through the porthole.

He got wedged halfway and had to climb back inside and remove his lifejacket until he managed to escape from the stricken ship.

The command to abandon ship was given, but was left with only soap

suds to hide his modesty! When he arrived at his muster station he asked the captain if he could go back to his cabin for his clothes. He was told to take his place in the life boat.

Both ship's lifeboats were safely launched, with 24 crew on Dave's and 23 on the crew on the second boat.

The U-boat surfaced and told the crew to move away from the damaged ship. Then it continued firing shells into the ship until the ammunition magazine was blown up. This caused it to finally sink. Two crew, were killed in the attack.

The U-boat commander said he could not spare any provisions for them as he was 3,000 miles from his base. He left them to the elements.

During the night, the life boats were separated. After 13 days on starvation rations and little water, they reached the coast of Africa and were eventually repatriated to the UK.

David recounts his wartime adventures in his book *The Enemy, My New Friends*. After the Russians lifted the 50-year censorship, David was asked by the German Navy to write a German version of his book.

The forum next meets on Thursday, January 29, when Dean Powell will be speaking on the topic of 'Dr Price Archdruid' at Trinity Presbyterian Church Hall, Aberystwyth Crescent, at 10.15am.

New members are very welcome.

MC

HOLTON Primary School Choir, Barry, joined the choirs from High Street Primary and Romilly Primary, among 300 other schoolchildren, to perform in the African Children's Choir concert at St David's Hall Cardiff.

Holton Primary provided classrooms for the African choir children to study in while on the tour, and children and staff were overawed when the choir gave a unique performance for pupils in school.

Money raised will go towards the Music for Life programme that will support children in their communities in Africa.

AG

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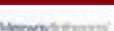
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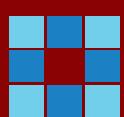
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VALE COUNCIL SHORTLISTED FOR AN AWARD

THE Vale Council has been shortlisted for a National Tourism Award for Wales in the Best Event category.

The popular Isle of Fire event, which returned to Barry Island for its second outing in the summer, has been chosen alongside four other small events from across Wales vying for the title of best small event in Wales.

The award will see gold, silver, and bronze winners, which will be

announced at the gala dinner and awards ceremony at the Vale Resort on Wednesday, March 25.

Run by Visit Wales, the National Tourism Awards for Wales looks to "showcase the very best in Welsh tourism from the best places to stay and eat, to Wales' best event" with 58 businesses and individuals shortlisted across 14 categories.



Delegates with CAVC Vice Principal Mark Kent (far left).

Cardiff and Vale College hosts an international skills seminar in capital

CARDIFF and Vale College has hosted politicians and policy makers from as far afield as Yemen and Ethiopia – to showcase the Welsh skills sector.

The college was the venue for the first international skills seminar to be held in Wales. Organised by the British Council, it was one of a series held in the UK's four home nation capitals.

Delegates included the (TVET) in Wales.

Ethiopian State Minister for Education and Egyptian Deputy Minister for vocational education. As well as hosting the event, the college also gave delegates a tour of the International Centre for Aerospace Training (ICAT), based at Cardiff Airport.

The seminar included presentations by Welsh education and business experts. Welsh Government Deputy Minister Julie James explained the Welsh Government's role in supporting technical and vocational education.

Coleg Cymru chief executive Greg Walker talked about the Welsh Further Education system and Sarah Hopkins of Wales and West Utilities gave the employers' view. Rhys Williams and Louise Burnell from GE Aviation Wales talked about the role of apprenticeships in Welsh business.

May Kent, CAVC Vice Principal for Commercial Business Development, spoke of the importance of building links between learning providers and employers.

Instrumentalists give customers a treat in store



TWO winners from last year's Music in the Vale instrumental competition, Alex Maxted and Nathaniel Alcolado (pictured above) played the Marimba to the delight of Christmas shoppers in John Lewis department store in Cardiff.

The competition is held annually each November and, as last year, will be held at Stanwell School, Penarth during the weekend of November 14-15, giving opportunities to young singers and instrumentalists to perform before professional judges.

Entrants to the 2015 competition should apply to sheelaghlewis@yahoo.co.uk.

AM's plea to support the Vale's farmers

SOUTH Wales Central regional AM, Andrew RT Davies, has called for "strong resolve" from the Welsh Government after one of the country's biggest national brokers for dairy farmers announced plans to defer payment to farmers in order to rebuild their balance sheet.

Vale. "In order to rebuild its balance sheet First Milk has announced a temporary suspension of payments to farmers. When one of the biggest national brokers for dairy farmers does that, you know it's pretty serious.

"Everyone expects the market to dictate the price of milk, but it's not asking too much to get a day's pay for a day's work and this must be a temporary measure or an already delicate situation will deteriorate.

"Clearly this will affect a number of small to medium sized businesses in the Vale and they will be looking to the Welsh Government for strong resolve and support during a difficult period," he added.

PACT meetings

BUTTRILLS PACT, Barry Town Council Offices, Gladstone Road, Barry, February 5 at 6.30pm.

STANWELL PACT, The Pod, St Lukes Avenue, Penarth, February 13 at 7pm.

RHOOS coffee and chat, the Six Bells, Penmark, February 24 at 11am.

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LOCAL HEALTH BOARD IS RECRUITING NEW NURSES

NEW nurses will soon be hitting the wards throughout Cardiff and Vale UHB thanks to a series of recruitment events taking place on Saturdays throughout January.

The board is running further recruitment events on January 24 and 31 where candidates can come along and talk to staff and get a first-hand feel for the services run across the organisation.

The first event took place on Saturday (January 17) and saw more than 30 nurses offered posts. These individuals will be appointed across a

range of different areas within the surgical, medicine and specialist services clinical boards. Many of these successful applicants are nursing students who are due to qualify this year.

Claire Vaughan, assistant director of human resources, said: "We have been overwhelmed by the response to the recruitment campaign. We feel very privileged that so many professional and talented nurses have applied to come and work for Cardiff and Vale UHB.

"The feedback received from the interview panels was excellent and the quality of candidates was very high – the panels were particularly delighted with the calibre of students coming through."

On Saturday (January 24) the recruitment event will focus mainly on paediatric nursing with interview slots also available for general adult nurses.

This event has proved very popular with only a few places remaining. To book a place or find out more about these events please contact 02920744321.

Council initiative is a help to local jobs

VALE Council-led Barry Communities are celebrating getting three more young people into paid Jobs Growth Wales placements.

The European Union programme aims to get young people aged 16-24 onto six-month paid placements with companies across Wales.

One local resident, Naomi Moreton, was able to secure a placement with Costa Coffee on Holton Road, Barry, through Barry Communities First support.

Skye Mason and Michelle Andrews were able to secure placements with Little Inspirations Nursery School, Barry.

The regional AM said: "There are clearly huge pressures building in the milk industry and recent news will be of deep concern to many in the

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£40m boost to support the Welsh NHS in tough times

LAST week, I made an additional £40million available to the Welsh NHS – to respond to winter pressures which are being experienced throughout the UK.

The extra funding comes from the Welsh Government's reserves, and our announcement matches an allocation of funding made by the UK Government to help deal with the winter pressures in England.

Pressures on the

NHS in Wales have included the busiest GP out-of-hour services experienced during the festive period since they were established; and hospital emergency departments across Wales reporting an increase in admissions of patients with acute conditions, complex needs and dependency.

The Welsh Ambulance Service has also seen a significant rise in the most critically-ill patients using its services.

I announced more funding for the Welsh NHS in the final Budget for 2015/16 agreed by the Assembly before Christmas and



enhanced by extra funding in the autumn statement.

This means increased investment in our Welsh NHS of more

£224,780 Lottery cash for project

THE Big Lottery is awarding a grant to the Vale Council to help boost employment on the Vale of Glamorgan Heritage Coast.

The project, led by the council's rural development team, Creative Rural Communities, aims to encourage the economic development of coastal communities.

The £224,760 will be used to support expansion and creation of micro enterprises in the area. Funding

has also been awarded to replace the existing slipway at Dunraven Bay in Southerndown, along with storage units for on and off shore activities.

Coun Lis Burnett, cabinet member for regeneration, said: "We are delighted that the Big Lottery has awarded this grant to support an area often regarded as a hidden gem by many."

"This project will boost tourism in the area and build upon the excellent work delivered through our rural development programme."

than half a billion pounds over two years, showing our commitment as a Welsh Labour Government to our Health Service in Wales and our commitment to the people who work in the NHS and to all those who use the service.

There was good news last week about the impact of extra funding for the Welsh NHS with the third Wales annual report for cancer showing improved survival rates as a result of new and more effective treatments, meaning many more people can now expect to live longer after their treatment.

We also expect to see improvements in the coming year in the percentage of newly-diagnosed patients who are treated within 62 days. This will be backed by the extra funding for new MRI and CT Scanners in our hospitals across Wales.

There will be £1.5m for Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board – which will provide an additional CT scanner for the Princess of Wales Hospital. There will be £1.5m to

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, which will provide a new CT scanner in the main department at Cardiff's University Hospital of Wales and will allow the existing CT scanner to be relocated to the emergency radiology department.

Over the past week, the Health and Social Service Minister, Professor Mark Drakeford, has thanked the staff in the NHS, social care and social services. He has said that staff are –

"working tirelessly, often in difficult situations, to ensure that those people who have needed urgent and emergency care have received high-quality treatment and services and have been treated with care and compassion."

As Finance Minister for Wales, I am determined to play my part in supporting our NHS staff with the extra funding I have announced to improve our GP and hospital services, supporting doctors, nurses and all health professionals, alongside their partners in social care and social services.

FOUR TEENAGERS SENTENCED AFTER SERIOUS ASSAULT

FOUR teenagers have each been given sentences of 12 months in prison at Cardiff Magistrates Court, after a serious assault in Barry.

The sentencing came after the assault took place on Friday, August 15 around 10pm on Broad Street, Barry.

The victim, a 19-year-old man from Barry, was struck several times to the face during the attack and suffered a broken jaw.

PC Nicola Owen said: "This was a particularly nasty attack and the sentencing has brought these four violent offenders to justice. They conducted this horrific assault with intent to injure and terrify the

victim. We hope this result shows South Wales Police's priority of protecting people from harm".

The four teenagers, aged 16 and 17 years of age, each received 12-month custodial sentences. Another teenager, aged 15 years old, who was also involved in the assault was given a referral order with a curfew attached.

Tough measures to reduce anti-social behaviour in Barry have been introduced. Officers will use the Anti-Social behaviour Act to break up groups of youths they believe to be harassing people in the town.

The Act enables officers to disperse groups if they are intimidating, alarming, harassing or causing distress to any members of the public, police said.

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First Minister replies to critics of Welsh NHS Cancer drug fund: why Wales has opted for a different approach

THREE'S been a lot of discussion over the last few months comparing the NHS in Wales and England, particularly with regard to cancer – so let's look at the facts.

If you live in Wales, you have £10 per head more spent on your cancer care than in England. You are also more likely to be seen within target treatment times. You will have faster access to approved drugs. You will see a state-of-the-art, brand new cancer treatment centre being built at Velindre over the next few years.

Much of the debate has concentrated on the cancer drugs fund in England, which we don't have in Wales – but there are rational reasons for this. In both England and Wales, there is a body called the National Institute for Care and Health Excellence (NICE), which looks at new drugs and decides whether they are value for money; does their cost justify their effectiveness for certain conditions? Some drugs are approved for use in the NHS, but some are turned down.

In England, it's possible for these non-approved drugs to be funded via the cancer drugs fund.

However, England has just introduced a new value for money element there as well, which defeats the whole object of the fund.

In Wales, we have another body,



by **CARWYN JONES AM**

called the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group, which evaluates new medicines that haven't been through the NICE process for use in the NHS.

People can also apply for funding for drugs for any condition, not just cancer, which aren't available on the NHS through the IPFR system.

The problem with the English system is that in the past, companies whose drugs were rejected as too

expensive often came back with a lower price.

That discipline is no longer there, so the price of cancer drugs is higher than it should be. It also discriminates against people with other serious conditions, such as MS or heart disease, who can't get access to drugs in the same way.

Sadly, the drugs funded through England's fund are not life-saving drugs. For some people, it's true to say their lives might be extended – sometimes for weeks, sometimes more. Those drugs can also be funded in Wales under the IPFR process, according to a person's circumstances.

These are always difficult decisions. In England, they've focused on drugs; we focus on treatment and speed of access to treatment.

We know from the events of the last few weeks that Whitehall is in no position to lecture us on the NHS after the various emergencies declared in English hospitals, which I take no satisfaction from.

We've also seen the Prime Minister plead that the English NHS shouldn't be a political football, while kicking the Welsh NHS all over the park.

The NHS deserves an honest approach. There is greater and greater demand and we, as a society, need to think about how we fund it and what our expectations should be. London politicians attacking the Welsh NHS undermines that approach.

THE WINTER BEES KEEP QUEEN ALIVE

NOT a lot of external activity – the very changeable weather means that bees cannot get out as much as they would like to.

Remember that honeybees do not hibernate, if temperatures are around 10°C or above, they do become active and will leave the hive on short cleansing flights (toilet requirements). However, reports of spring flowers already beginning to show will see more bee excursions if dry spells come along.

We may not notice it but the days are getting longer. The double figure temperatures that are not the norm for January can easily trigger a Queen bee to start laying in an attempt to produce new young bees to replace the overwinter bees that are now some months old.

The winter bees are the longest lived because they are not out foraging, or building comb, or tending to the myriad of tasks that spring and summer bees have to contend with.

Their job is to keep the Queen alive and this is achieved thanks to the stores that their now dead sisters provided to get a colony through the winter months; these winter bees will start to die off simply because they are old.

How old is old? Well summer bees will be lucky to live six weeks because of the demands of an expanding colony i.e. hive temperature to control, eggs to tend, larvae that has developed from eggs to feed, nectar and pollen has to be gathered and stored etc.

Our winter bees do work to control the temperature in the hive (by shivering) but because their workload is much less demanding, their lifespan is greater.

Along with other beekeepers, I am visiting the apiaries under my control to check the weight of the hives and to look for bees that are venturing out and letting me know that I still have live

bees. The weight assessment is done by simply going to the back of the hive and tilting it forward; this very rudimentary approach does give me some indication about the stores within and I can make a decision to feed or leave well alone.

At present, I am managing the following apiaries: Fonmon, Aberthaw Power Station, Cardiff training at Dyffryn Gardens and, come the spring, a new apiary will be started at Lafarge cement works in East Aberthaw.

The fact that two local industries that are often berated as polluters are putting up funds and materials to aid the survival of the honeybee, has to be applauded.

My apiary at Fonmon was established long before I went there, and the value of the honeybee to the environment has always known to the residents of the castle. Dyffryn apiary was established thanks to the then Vale Council.

It is now a National Trust property and their controllers are very keen to see beekeeping continued.

All pollinators are facing an uphill struggle; it is up to those who can make a difference to do so.

Swarming bees kept beekeepers busy last year.

HAROLD WILLIAMS

VALEWAYS WALKS

ON Sunday, January 25 at 10am, Llanbedr-y-Fro/Peterston Super Ely (seven miles), starting at the Sportsman's Rest pub car park.

Also on Sunday, January 25 at 2pm, Coast, lakes and railway, starting at Penarth cliff top car park. On Wednesday, January 28 at 10.30am, the Coffee Shop Strollers meet at Romilly Cafe, Cold Knap, Barry.

On Thursday, January 29 at 10am, 'Fore!' (seven miles), starting at the Red Lion pub car park, Pendoylan.

Charity run to support hospice

ON Sunday, March 8, hundreds of runners will be supporting George Thomas Hospice Care's charity 5K Fun Run, this year

www.funfoundationsdaynursery.co.uk



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One of the joggers taking part will be Rachel Jones, whose father was cared for by the hospice. Rachel, who recently ran the Cardiff Half Marathon, wanted to do even more for the care centre. She said: "The care that George Thomas Hospice gave my dad and the whole family was first class.

"Even little things such as a bereavement card meant so much. If I can take part, stay fit and give something back I'm more than happy."

The 5K run starts at Blackweir Changing Rooms at 10am and goes through Bute Park. Everybody who takes part gets a T-shirt, goody bag and medal.

It is £10 to enter and people can register by phoning George Thomas Hospice Care on 029 2052 4150 or visiting www.gthc.org.uk. Once registered, the charity will send out sponsorship forms.

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A CHANCE ENCOUNTER AT VALE SHOW UNCOVERS A FAMILY LINK

I NEVER knew Llewelin Jones. I remember my grandfather, who died in 1964, telling me that Llewelin was his elder brother.

Llewelin was one of six children born into a farming family at Blaennant Farm, Pontardawe, in the Swansea Valley.

Both my grandfather and Llewelin farmed after leaving Blaennant – my grandfather at Alltwen, Pontardawe, and Llewelin at Milford Haven. One other thing I remember being told is that both my grandfather and Llewelin were members of the Glamorgan Yeomanry in the early 1900s. As my grandfather was 80 when he died, I believe that Llewelin had died some time before this.

Back in August, I was casually strolling around the Vale of Glamorgan Show. I had planned my afternoon to attend different events and had a spare half hour before attending a presentation on the history of Hendrewnnol Fruit Farm.

I came across a tent housing the Western Front Association, which I had not seen on previous visits to the show. I think it was probably there to commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of the World War One.

As I have always had an interest in military

history, I went inside the tent and viewed the maps, medals, badges, helmets and other insignia on display. I started to talk to a gentleman named Mike, who was in charge of the displays.

He asked me whether any of my family had been involved in World War One, and I said I thought it very unlikely, since I had lost contact with my father's family many years earlier and on my mother's side, were several generations of farmers.

I then remembered the Glamorgan Yeomanry, and told Mike that both my grandfather and my great uncle, Llewelin, had been members of the Glamorgan Yeomanry in the early 1900s, but that I didn't think this could be regarded as military service.

I also told him that I still had an inscribed prize which Llewelin had won in a rifle competition organised by the Yeomanry in 1907.

Mike then told me that quite a number of the Glamorgan Yeomanry had transferred into the regular army and had served on the Western Front in France and Belgium during the war, whereupon he asked me for Llewelin's full name.

I told him Llewelin H Jones – although I didn't know what the H stood for. He also asked me for

Llewelin's address. I said that I didn't really know other than he had been born at Blaennant Farm in the parish of Cilybebyll, Pontardawe.

Mike suddenly stared at me in disbelief. His eyes seemed to get bigger and his jaw dropped. In a quivering voice he said: "I've got his war medals".

He then referred to a sheaf of papers he had at his side, and said: "I've been researching your great uncle's military history at the National Archives. His full name was Llewelin Hopkin Jones. He was born on July 29, 1879. He applied for transfer into the regular army on July 30, 1915. He was educated at St John's College School and Lampeter College, Cardiganshire. His application form states that he wished to serve in the Army Service Corps, Horse Transport.

"His Army service record shows that he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant on November 27, 1915, promoted to Lieutenant on July 1, 1917, and to Captain on October 1, 1918. He was demobbed on November 13, 1919, to an address given as Cefn-y-Don, Elm Grove, Aberdare, south Wales".

It was now my turn to be amazed. I had difficulty in understanding that someone I had never met before that day, could have more information about a member of my family than I ever had.

I asked Mike what medals Llewelin had been awarded. He replied that Llewelin had been awarded two service medals. Apparently, Llewelin had missed out on the third service medal because he hadn't been in the army in 1914.

Table top sale

A TABLE top sale and craft fair will be held on January 24 (10am-2pm) in Highlight Park Community Centre, Barry, in support of 10th Barry Guide.

Free entry; refreshments. Contact suzanne.butcher15@btinternet.com or telephone 07990754344/07578194913.

Tax advice

AGE Connect Cardiff and Vale are holding a free tax advice session at the Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry, on Monday,

Mike added that he was sorry but the medals were not for sale. However, he'd be very happy to let me have photocopies of the documents he had turned up in his research.

I gave him my name and address and told him that I would send him a photograph of Llewelin and a further photograph of the inscribed prize he had won in 1907.

I was thrilled to receive photocopies from Mike a few days later. I noted that when Llewelin went to the Western Front he was a single man. On being demobbed he was stated to be married.

This to me was confirmation that he had married while he was in France because I remember that my grandfather's funeral in 1964 Llewelin's wife, Marte, attended the cremation service together with her son Gaston.

Gaston continued the family tradition in farming. From Milford Haven he moved to a farm outside Shaftesbury in Dorset. Gaston's son still farms there today.

As I left Mike's tent at the show, he said that I'd made his day. He had certainly made mine, too.

Footnote:

After World War One, three service medals were awarded. They were nicknamed Pip, Squeak and Wilfred, after three characters who appeared in a cartoon strip published in the Daily Mirror in 1919. Although Llewelin was not entitled to 'Pip', the 1914 Star, he was awarded 'Squeak' the British War Medal and 'Wilfred', the Victory Medal.

GREG LEWIS

WHAT'S ON

January 26 (9.30am to 11.30am).

History talk

THE Rhoose & District History Society's monthly meeting will be on January 30 at 7.30pm in Rhoose Community Hall, Stewart Road (side entrance).

Keith Moger will give a talk on the history of Cardiff and district hospitals. All are welcome; entrance charge of £1 to cover costs.

MASSIVE JANUARY SALE

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At Securahome, we act as project manager on every new conservatory or orangery build and frequently deal with extensions that require permissions. In our experience it

pays to allow at least 10 weeks for authority planning permission, with sewer agreements often involving a similar timescale.

When it comes to design, there are plenty of options to consider. Once you've spoken to a conservatory or orangery specialist, allow time to consider the layout and how you will use your new room as well as those all-important design features, before formal plans are drawn up and submitted.

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In gardening terms, to ensure that you are sitting back in your new room when there's blossom on the trees, it makes good sense to set

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IKKLE is a six-month-old Lurcher. He is a sweet lad – being a young lurcher, he can get very bouncy and excitable, so he will need calm and consistent handling and continued work on his mixing and recall.

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training needs. He can live with children 11 years and over.

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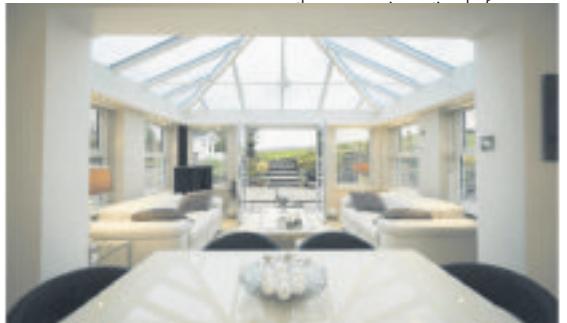


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Out and About with The GEM

Simmons steals the show as Whiplash marches to his beat

WHILE he had been a busy bit-part player for some time, it was his scene-stealing as Daily Bugle editor J Jonah Jameson in Sam Raimi's *Spider-Man* films that really brought JK Simmons to the fore.

Since then, Simmons has managed to be the best thing in the majority of the films he's been in, lending support in the likes of *Juno*, *Burn After Reading* and many others.

Simmons is now front and centre, sharing top billing with Miles Teller in *Whiplash*, writer/director Damien Chazelle's tale of Andrew, a young drummer who enrols at a music school and finds himself under the tutelage of Fletcher (Simmons), a man who will stop at nothing to get the best out of his students, going to lengths that will either make – or break – Andrew...

We've all seen the film where a promising, unpolished talent comes under the wing of a tough, uncompromising older head; tough love turns to mutual respect and eventually everyone is happy and the credits roll. Well, *Whiplash* may appear to be that film, but delve underneath its surface and it's so much more, a study in perfecting your art form, fighting against seemingly insurmountable

psychological odds, and the price of achieving your dreams – it's one of the most electrifying and thrilling films in recent memory.

The story is based on Damien Chazelle's own experiences of playing in a jazz band, and it gives him a familiarity that transfers to the screen with stylish aplomb. The script is a tauter than a snare drum, yet is loaded with depth in terms of the characters.

It's a two-hander, more or less, Andrew's eager student finding himself pushing against the irrepressible force of nature that is Fletcher, but Chazelle constantly keeps both Andrew and the audience on their toes. Just when you think you have a handle on Fletcher, the rug gets swept away, Chazelle teasing you by constantly undercutting Fletcher's 'villainy' – making you wonder who he really is and just how bad can he be.

There is an influence of *Black Swan* present here, the direction occasionally using the fever dream visuals that were used in Darren Aronofsky's study of an artist (in *Black Swan*'s case, a ballerina) in mental breakdown through pushing themselves to fit into their master's whims.

Andrew goes from being prodded to being pushed but, much like Natalie Portman's Nina, never knows when, nor being willing, to quit.

Chazelle's direction is frenetic and wonderfully stylish, the use of colour and editing giving the film a



by
GARETH JAMIESON

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mood of its own, while the drum-heavy soundtrack plays its part in establishing the atmosphere, the combination of these elements creating the film's identity incredibly well. The well-written characters aren't wasted, with both Miles Teller and JK Simmons on truly sensational form.

The latter has the showier role, Fletcher's temperament and quickfire anger being gobbled up by the actor who seems to relish having such a juicy part to sink his teeth into.

But it's Teller who does the real heavy lifting, perfectly conveying Andrew's journey in a performance that is far less flash, but does just as good a job, Andrew's slight cockiness giving way to terror.

However, undeniably it will be Simmons' performance that will leave you shaking come the end of the film, the consistently-impressive

actor finding a role that may end up becoming as quotable as Daniel Plainview in terms of single-minded, seemingly heartless men, with most of his invective hurled at anyone who dare displease him, far too foul-mouthed to reprint here; suffice to say, Simmons and Chazelle have created a band leader from hell!

That it climaxes in a manner normally befitting a sports film, as you wonder whether or not Andrew can grab a victory that may almost be pyrrhic in nature, is just another reason to admire the freshness and intensity that Chazelle brings to proceedings, as *Whiplash* is, especially for a first-time writer/director, a mesmerisingly accomplished effort.

VERDICT: A jaw-droppingly superb film, *Whiplash* will most certainly leave a lasting impact on you. First-time writer/director Damien Chazelle shows incredible promise in an assured debut, that showcases a quietly brilliant turn from Miles Teller and JK Simmons on fine, scenery (and music pupil) chewing form. A truly mesmerising and accomplished work.

Essential viewing.
SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Black Swan* (2010), *Inside Llewyn Davis* (2013).

See more reviews and news at hindsightfilmsblog.blogspot.co.uk.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjack pot lottery draw number D862:

● £2,000: 987877.

● The rollover, which now stands at £2,500 was not won this week.

● £10: 246742,

725233, 438333, 779418, 228338, 510489, 371080, 935439, 688163, 253359, 664817, 968931, 551221, 195403, 299817, 504508, 246228, 434693, 635936, 340808.

● £5: 845789,

287389, 770677, 233885, 576365, 964530, 931611, 816750, 530409, 184916,

368014, 799754, 187254, 472996, 115654, 751629,

511522, 734350, 321008,

949393, 386999, 911915,

481224, 238000, 132258,

479121, 125377, 530262,

894353, 448467, 346428,

304667, 860740, 582530,

530009, 775572, 203695,

886596, 193342, 175572,

394389, 149649, 701281,

102103, 309809, 813143,

385395, 337601, 350847,

283594, 101674, 881654,

661961, 688294, 444343,

141249, 755229, 260798,

213190, 150666.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

What's on, and where in your area...

CAB advice

THE Citizens' Advice Bureau is holding fortnightly sessions at KPC in Pyle to give advice and help in dealing with debt, managing a budget and benefit entitlements.

To book a slot at the sessions, which run on a Thursday between 1pm and 3pm, call Alison on 01656 749219. The next sessions are: January 22, February 5 and 19 and will be running on the first and third Thursday of each month.

Art society
On Thursday, January 29, Cowbridge Art

Society starts its 2015 programme with a practical session, which will involve drawing portraits in a medium of choice.

The society meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge (7pm-9pm) and visitors and new members are welcome.

For details of the society's activities, see www.cowbridgeart.society.com.

Probus Club Llantrisant
Probus Club meets from 10am to 12 noon on every third Tuesday of the month at Pontyclun Rugby Club.

The programme for



Thingumijigs: back row; John, Irene, Sheila, David, Mic, Stephannie and Kath. Front row; Richard, Andy and Annie.

several lucky recipients; Velindre Cancer Care had a cheque for £410, followed by Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, who had another cheque for £350.

How could that be? Well, if the band you're listening to is going to give away all their hard-earned cash to charity, that's just what you'll be doing.

That's what local ceilidh band 'Thingumijigs' do with all the money they earn from playing at ceilidhs, weddings, birthday parties, school dances, etc.

At the end of each financial year, all the money raised is put into a lump sum, and band members vote to decide how the cash should be divided up amongst all the good charitable causes.

The band take nothing in expenses. Your ticket price goes straight to charity. You listen and dance; charities benefit!

So who profited last year from the hours and hours of practice and playing? There were

Syndrome and Overlapping Disorders), the International Tortoise Association at Sully, Ham Lane School, and the Amur Leopard and Tiger Association.

To help Thingumijigs raise even more money for charity this year, while having a great night out, come to their next ceilidh at St Donats

Arts Centre on Saturday, February 7. Don't worry if you've never danced before – Pat Smith (who called for Gavin and Stacey's famous barn dance) will soon have you making the right moves!

For more information and tickets, call St Donats box office 01447 799100. AB

Car enthusiasts hit top gear to raise funds for charity

Bridgend MGOC chairman, Paul Bullock, presents a cheque to Gwyneth Poacher from Sandvile.



MEMBERS of Bridgend MG Owners' Club made a special trip to the Sandvile Self Help Centre in Porthcawl to present a cheque from its fundraising efforts throughout the year.

The local classic car club presented a cheque for £500 to Nurse Director Gwyneth Poacher MBE, which was raised from proceeds from the club's annual Cwm to Coast Run.

The run, held each June, attracts classic car enthusiasts from across the UK to take part in a fundraising road run, followed by supper at a local eatery.

Earlier in the year, a further donation of £500 was presented to the charity, making a total of £1,000 from the club's fundraising efforts in 2014.

Club chairman Paul Bullock said: "We are delighted to continue our long-standing support of Sandvile Self Help Centre.

"Over the past decade, we have seen at first hand the wonderful work that the charity does for local people and their families when they are suffering from ill health.

"It is lovely to be able to combine our hobby with raising funds for a very worthwhile and much-needed local charity."

Club members visited Sandvile to hear from Gwyneth and her volunteers about the current demand on the service, and see the latest facilities that Sandvile can offer to local people who use the centre.

ST

Two Vale fundraisers praised at No 10 meeting

BARRY
community
champions Susan
Borges and
Christine Tutton
met Samantha
Cameron at 10
Downing Street last
week, after being
nominated by Vale
MP Alun Cairns.

Mrs Borges is a
fundraiser for Marie
Curie Cancer Care, and
has worked for a
number of years to
raise money to provide
care for people with
terminal illnesses.

Christine Tutton is
the chairperson of the
RNLI Barry Dock
Lifeboat fundraising
branch, and has raised

thousands for the
organisation over many
years.

Both

were invited to
Downing Street as part
of a 'charity
champions' reception
which celebrated their
work in the local
community. Alun
Cairns and Samantha
Cameron heaped praise
on them for their
achievements.

Mr Cairns said:
"Susan and Christine
deserve huge credit for
all of the work they
have done, and I was
delighted to introduce
them to Samantha
Cameron."

Susan Borges said:
"It was a real honour to
meet Samantha
Cameron at Downing
Street and to tell her

"They give up so
much of their time to
help Marie Curie and
the RNLI, and we in
the Vale are all proud of
them."

Samantha

Cameron

commented: "It was a
privilege to meet Susan
Borges and Christine
Tutton from Marie
Curie and the RNLI at
10 Downing Street."

"Their amazing work
is changing the lives of
individuals and families
across Barry and it was
an honour to celebrate
their work at the
reception for charity
champions."

"Everybody in the
organisation can be
proud of all that they
have done."

about the work Marie
Curie does. The
organisation relies on
many hardworking
volunteers and I was
pleased to see this
recognised."

Christine

Tutton

added: "Samantha
Cameron was very
complimentary about
the work we all do at
the RNLI in Barry."

"Everybody in the
organisation can be
proud of all that they
have done."

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Volunteers grieve for RNLI stalwart John

VOLUNTEERS at Porthcawl RNLI lifeboat were saddened to hear that John Blundell had died on January 19.

John was instrumental in getting the RNLI to establish a lifeboat in Porthcawl and following negotiations, the station was opened in 1965.

He served the station as honorary secretary, now known as lifeboat operations manager, in the early years and then station committee chairman for almost 40 years.

Philip Missen MBE, Porthcawl lifeboat operations manager said: "Our thoughts today go out to John's

family. He certainly was an RNLI stalwart and would still attend the lifeboat station most Sunday mornings up until just a couple of years ago when illness prevented his visits.

"It is very sad that he will not be with us to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the station opening, especially since he was the driving force and had the foresight to see the need for the RNLI to re-open a base at Porthcawl.

"That foresight has meant that our volunteers have saved many lives during those years since 1965."

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Oil4Wales
Olew dros Gymru

**Oil4Wales to help
farmers with cashflow
amid milk price wars**

Local oil distributor Oil 4 Wales is helping First Milk customers by extending its payment terms to ease cashflow concerns following the announcement by First Milk to withhold milk payments to farmers.

The announcement came following a price war in leading supermarkets which has seen the price of milk fall to its lowest since 2007. In some major supermarkets a pint of milk is now as little as 22p a litre, making it cheaper than some bottled water.

The National Farmers Union and Farmers For Action have reported that the minimum price for milk that producers can survive on is 30p a litre and there is now a fear that this price war will drive many Welsh farmers out of business.

It is often the case that only 50-60% of the retail price is paid to farmers, making the current market unsustainable for many farmers, which is why the number of dairy farmers has halved in just over a decade.

As part of its commitment to the farming community of Wales, family run business Oil 4 Wales has launched a new payment initiative giving farmers more time to pay their bills during this difficult time.

Oil 4 Wales supply red diesel, gas oil and kerosene to agricultural customers throughout

Wales. It supplies fuels to a number of farms, small holdings and farming groups, promising a same or next day delivery and fair price.

Colin Owens, managing director of Oil 4 Wales, said: "We appreciate it is a difficult time for farmers with the price of milk falling and the future of dairy companies being uncertain, which is why we're keen to help in any way possible."

"As our slogan is 'working with the community, for the community' extending our payment terms is just one way we've demonstrated our commitment to the local farming community. We suggest that any First Milk customers therefore contact their local Oil 4 Wales depot to discuss their requirements further. We hope this will help Welsh farmers in the short term in a bid to ensure they have a sustainable future."

Oil 4 Wales is an independent, family run oil distribution company. The company, which supplies a range of fuel services to homes, businesses, commercial premises, agricultural and retail customers, supplies over 35,000 customers in Wales delivered by 21 vehicles.

For more information visit www.oil4wales.co.uk and to order fuel call your local depot - Cardiff: 02920 674 910. Boiler maintenance: 0800 433 4353.



Left to right, Alun Cairns, Susan Borges, Samantha Cameron and Christine Tutton.

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SIX NATIONS RUGBY

2015 FIXTURES



As the world's oldest rugby tournament prepares to kick-off...

Six with but a single thought – to gain an edge for RWC 2015!

Who will wear the Crown?

THE world's oldest international rugby tournament began life as the four home nations championship in 1883, became the Five Nations with the formal inclusion of France in 1910, and finally evolved into the Six Nations in 2000, when Italy was admitted to the exclusive club – which after 132 years is still going strong.

In fact, if anything on the eve of this year's opening clashes, interest is even more intense – given extra significance with the 2015 Rugby World Cup taking place on 'home soil' in the autumn.

Each of the six will aim to use the Six Nations, not only to claim the coveted championship title, but to secure a vital psychological edge over rivals they are likely to meet when the world comes to the UK.

First up on Friday, February 6, will be the renewal of a close-fought rivalry between Wales and

England, who each boast 26 championship wins outright since the early days (though Wales has also shared the title 10 times).

Despite the long, barren years when Welsh rugby was plunged into gloom after the bright light that shone on the '70s 'superstars' faded, the two nations are almost level pegging – with England on 12 Grand Slams and Wales on 11. The men in white have also claimed 24 Triple Crowns to Wales' 20.

Not that it should be assumed, of course, that the title race will be decided between these two – with many pundits predicting there will be no outright winner.

Last year's championship winners, and bookies' favourites, Ireland, will have something to say about that.

The men in green were level with England over the five games, but took the title by virtue of a better points tally to add to their solitary Grand Slam.

And let us not forget the boys in blue – the Scots have also been making strides under their new coach and will see a fourth Grand Slam and/or 11th Triple Crown as well within their reach.

There is also the lurking, if unpredictable threat from over the Channel, with France anxious to put recent travails



The captain and the coach.

behind them and lay down a World Cup marker by adding to their nine Grand Slams.

Finally, there are the outsiders from Italy who would dearly love to finally prove themselves with their first Grand Slam in the Six Nations.

All in all, it promises to be a very tasty starter to the RWC main course later this year!

On Tuesday, Wales' head coach Warren Gatland unveiled his 34-man squad, which showed few surprises.

As expected, new recruit from Kiwi Gatland's homeland, Welsh-qualified Gareth Anscombe, has done enough in nine games at the Blues to warrant inclusion as a utility back, though at the expense of the ever-unlucky James Hook.

Another notable absentee, is the man once said to be the first name on the Wales team sheet, tight head Adam Jones, despite a current prop 'crisis' and his improved form since switching from the Ospreys to the Blues.

However, it is no surprise to see new kid on the block Tyler Morgan in the national frame, after his explosive exploits for the Dragons. Rob

Evans (Scarlets) and Kristian Dacey (Blues) are the other uncapped players in the squad.

Don John

THE WALES SIX NATIONS SQUAD

FORWARDS: Gethin Jenkins (Blues), Paul James (Bath), Rob Evans (Scarlets), Aaron Jarvis (Ospreys), Samson Lee (Scarlets), Scott Andrews (Blues), Richard Hibbard (Gloucester), Kristian Dacey (Blues), Scott Baldwin (Ospreys), Alun Wyn Jones (Ospreys), Jake Ball (Scarlets), Bradley Davies (Wasps), Luke Charteris (Racing Metro), Dan Lydiate (Ospreys), James King (Ospreys), Sam Warburton (Blues, Capt), Justin Tipuric (Ospreys), Taulupe Faletau (Dragons).

BACKS: Mike Phillips (Racing Metro), Rhys Webb (Ospreys), Gareth Davies (Scarlets), Dan Biggar (Ospreys), Rhys Priestland (Scarlets), Gareth Anscombe (Blues), Cory Allen (Blues), Jamie Roberts (Racing Metro), Jonathan Davies (Clermont Auvergne), Scott Williams (Scarlets), Tyler Morgan (Dragons), Hallam Amos (Dragons), Alex Cuthbert (Blues), George North (Northampton Saints), Liam Williams (Scarlets), Leigh Halfpenny (Toulon).



New recruit from Kiwi land, Gareth Anscombe.

Six Nations fixtures 2015

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6
Wales v England at Millennium Stadium, Cardiff 8.05pm

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7
Italy v Ireland at Stadio Olimpico, Rome 2.30pm (GMT); France v Scotland at Stade de France, Paris 5pm (GMT).

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14
England v Italy at Twickenham Stadium, London 2.30pm; Ireland v France at Aviva Stadium, Dublin 5pm.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15
Scotland v Wales at Murrayfield Stadium, Edinburgh 3pm.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28
Scotland v Italy at Murrayfield Stadium, Edinburgh 2.30pm; France v Wales at Stade de France, Paris 5pm (GMT).

SUNDAY, MARCH 1
Ireland v England at Aviva Stadium, Dublin 3pm.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14
Wales v Ireland at Millennium Stadium, Cardiff 2.30pm; England v Scotland at Twickenham Stadium, London 5pm.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15
Italy v France at Stadio Olimpico, Rome 3pm (GMT).

SATURDAY, MARCH 21
Italy v Wales at Stadio Olimpico, Rome 12.30pm (GMT); Scotland v Ireland at Murrayfield Stadium, Edinburgh 2.30pm; England v France at Twickenham Stadium, London 5pm



The other new kid on the block – Tyler Morgan

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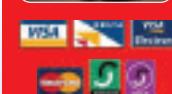
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READERS' LETTERS EXTRA

The GEM is attacked – for printing article in Welsh!

It is not the practice of this newspaper to publish anonymous letters to the Editor, but this week we make an exception.

The following unsigned letter was mailed to The GEM last week, amazingly taking us to task for having the audacity to publish an article in Welsh!

The writer, who actually claims to be Welsh, accuses us of "pandering to the minority by bringing Welsh to The GEM", asserting that Cowbridge has always been "an oasis of Englishness".

While The GEM is predominantly printed in English, as a community newspaper that, after all, is published in WALES, we aim to be inclusive, and make no apology for including what for

many is still the mother tongue in our weekly coverage. While the unknown writer is entitled to his or her view, it's a pity this was sent under a cloak of anonymity.

The anonymous letter in full:

'COWBRIDGE is unique, successful and a special town because it has always been very un-Welsh.'

'You are now pandering to the minority by bringing Welsh to The GEM.'

'This is alienating other Welsh people – believe me, there are many, many of them who disagree with promoting the Welsh language (I am Welsh).

'It is no surprise that many are now moving away to secure better education, better paid jobs and a better lifestyle.'

Fresh threat to Cowbridge

DR CHRIS PEARCE has highlighted the latest threat to Cowbridge (The GEM, December 4 and January 15). We have been here before!

Ten years ago, an opportunistic developer (Bellway) attempted to ambush the people of Cowbridge with an application for 145 houses on the green fields of Darren Farm. The proposal was not in the Unitary Development Plan (UDP).

With the support of over 1,000 signatories, Dr Pearce represented the town's objections at a public enquiry, where the planning inspector decisively rejected the proposal.

A new opportunistic application, for 390 houses and a link road, has now been submitted to develop the same green field site and, once again, the proposal is not in the UDP.

This time, the developers (CEG) are trying a PR charm offensive to persuade Cowbridge people that a population increase of 1,000 people and 500 cars (my estimates) will not have a harmful impact on the town.

For more proportionate and

'Need for inquiry into the NHS'

SO the number of people waiting more than four hours to be seen at casualty units in Wales has risen to the highest level for five years, which is certainly not good news.

According to official stats, around 20 per cent of A&E patients have waited longer than the target of four hours to be seen.

This is damning news for the Welsh Government and is further proof that Welsh Labour are just not doing a good enough job of looking after our health service in Wales.

Why are they denying us an independent public

Where will people live in rural Vale?

'Cultural vandalism' – 'Threat to historic rural village' screams a headline to a letter from Elizabeth Nash of Colwinston (The GEM, January 15).

I agree that Colwinston, like Penmark and many more villages in the rural Vale is an idyll to which many of us cannot subscribe and we cannot afford to live there.

Furthermore, as I do not own a car and will soon be wheelchair bound, Colwinston is not an ideal place to live.

It is in a beautiful location with an excellent public house, but I do think there is more than a hint of NIMBYism, ie "Not In My Back Yard" in Ms Nash's letter.

No one can argue that we do need more housing in the Vale; this will also be welcomed by businesses in the area, such as the said public house.

More people = more consumers of ale and meals, probably, being

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Welsh hot tub company wins Canadian award

AQUA Spas & Pools, based at Atlantic Gate, near Barry, has been awarded best dealer for substantial growth and outstanding performance in 2014.

The business, which specialises in quality hot tubs with innovation, won the award at the Coast Spas manufacturing conference in Vancouver, BC, Canada, last week.

A spokesman said: "We were totally overwhelmed with the award, which also resulted in a skiing trip to the world's best ski resort in Whistler. It also showed our commitment to supporting hundreds of hot tub projects in 2014 throughout south Wales."

"We thank our local customers and look forward to getting many more bubbling in 2015. Visit our new website at www.coastspaswales.co.uk and www.aquaspas.co.uk, for hot tubs starting from under £3k."



Three local finalists on short list for awards

THREE local finalists on the short list for Tidy Wales awards have been unveiled, including Friends of Barry Beaches, Wenveo Wildlife Group, and Bridgend Rail Station.

Supported by the Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales, the awards recognise volunteering groups throughout Wales who work to improve their local environment by reducing litter, protecting wildlife habitats, and reducing the impact of poverty.

The three shortlisted groups for each category will be invited to attend an award ceremony in Cardiff on February 26, hosted by S4C presenter Sian Thomas and former Welsh rugby star, Tom Shanklin.

Friends of Barry Beaches have been shortlisted for the Coastal Improvement Award, sponsored by Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water.

Volunteers meet monthly to carry out beach cleaning in the Barry area. In

the last four years they have collected 680 bags of rubbish and 720 bags of recycling.

The group also work to educate the public about the danger of litter to marine wildlife.

Wenveo Wildlife Group has been shortlisted for the Biodiversity Award – the group's Community Orchard at Wenveo Playing Fields has continued to develop over the past year.

Volunteers have transformed an unused patch of council-owned land that was prone to flooding into a productive and attractive community orchard, with fruit trees, pond, wildflower area, species-rich hedgerow and bee hotel.

Bridgend Railway Station is shortlisted for the Best Staffed Station Award, which recognises great facilities and conditions for the public.

It is sponsored by Arriva Trains Wales, the official transport provider for the Tidy Wales Awards.



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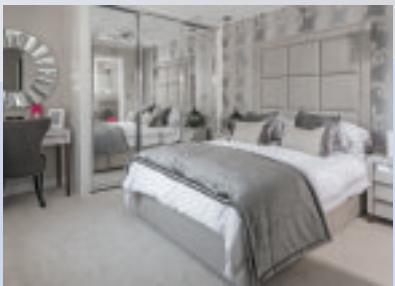


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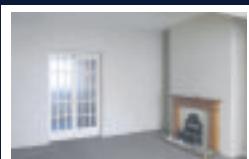
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174 Holton Road
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Vale of Glamorgan
CF63 4HN



CORONATION STREET, BARRY
 • A well proportioned 3 bedroom end terrace property close to town centre
 • Gas central heating & double glazed
 • Through lounge with a separate dining room
 • An attractive & mature enclosed garden to the rear
 • Offered freehold with vacant possession & no chain

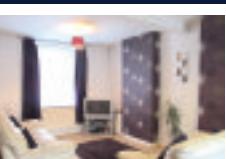
£129,950



NEW

LLEWELLYN STREET, BARRY
 • 2 bed mid terrace property in popular area of Barry
 • Within walking distance to local schools & shops
 • Well presented throughout
 • Courtyard garden to the rear
 • Offered freehold and would make an ideal 1st purchase

£104,950



NEW

BEATRICE ROAD, BARRY
 • 3 bedroom bay fronted Victorian property
 • Walking distance to town centre
 • Well presented throughout
 • Front & rear gardens
 • Situated in quiet no through road
 • Ideal 1st purchase or family home
 • Conveniently located close to transport links in & out of Barry

£122,000



SOLD

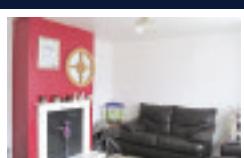
CHURCH ROAD, BARRY
 • 4 Storey building, currently comprising:
 • 2 bedroom basement flat with large garden to rear
 • 3 bedroom 2nd & 3rd floor maisonette
 • Retail unit (used to be hairdressers)
 • Ideal investment opportunity

£130,000



DYFNALLT ROAD, BARRY
 • 3 bed end of terrace property
 • Garden to front with a good sized garden to the rear
 • In need of work throughout
 • Would make an ideal investment property
 • Offered freehold

£79,950



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Church Road, Barry

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2/3 bed maisonette. GCH. DG. Unfurnished £475 ppcm
Fairford Garage, Barry

2 Storey coach house. £95 pw

Llewellyn Street, Barry

2 bed terrace. GCH. DG. Unfurnished £500 ppcm

Merthyr Street, Barry

2 bed terrace. GCH. DG. Unfurnished £550 ppcm

Glebe Street, Barry

3 bed end terrace. GCH. DG. Unfurnished £550 ppcm

Barry Road, Barry

3 bed G/F garden flat. GCH. DG. Unfurnished £525 ppcm

Newgate Close, Barry

2 bed semi with drive. GCH. DG.
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APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5:00PM 28 January 2015

Vale of Glamorgan Council Hafod Housing Association Newydd Housing Association United Welsh Wales and West Housing Association



To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at
HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
 or apply in writing to:

Vale of Glamorgan Council
 Visible Services and Housing
 Civic Offices Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU or
Newydd Housing Association
 121 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AL

ARTHUR DAVIS COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 947129
 Suitable for a single person over 55 – no pets

- Studio apartment
- First floor
- Gas central heating
- Double-glazing
- Scheme co-ordinator
- Communal door/gardens

Rent £104.46 per week including service charge

CAREW CLOSE, BARRY

H4U Reference 109143
 Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Three-bed house (small)
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing
- Garden/parking

Rent £87.47 per week

DUNLIN COURT, BARRY

H4U reference 109167
 Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Parking

Rent £80.40 per week including service charges

FRANCIS ROAD, BARRY

H4U reference 109155
 Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Two-bedroom house
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Garden/parking

Rent £86.22 per week including service charges

GATEHOLM CLOSE, BARRY

H4U Reference 1021632
 Preference given to existing tenants wishing to downsize

- Two-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Gardens

Rent £87.90 per week
 References will be required

HANOVER COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 108979
 Suitable for a single person over 60 (55 with medical need)

- One-bedroom flat
- First floor (no lift)
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Scheme manager

Rent £97.86 per week

HANOVER COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 1036722
 Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Central heating
- Double-glazing

Rent £83.42 per week

HARVEY STREET, BARRY

H4U reference 7652
 Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Two-bedroom house
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing
- Enclosed rear garden

Rent £81.37 per week

LLOYD AVENUE, BARRY

H4U reference 215150
 Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Gardens

Rent £104.87 per week including water charges

LOUGHER PLACE, ST ATHAN

H4U reference 248767
 Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Three-bedroom house
- Double glazing
- Central heating
- Gardens

Rent £104.41 per week including water charges

MERGANSER COURT, BARRY

H4U reference 991417
 Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Three-bed maisonette
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing
- Enclosed garden

Rent £96.67 per week including service charge
 Applicants in receipt of pension credit will also be considered.

NEWHOUSE COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 1082855
 Pref given to applicants over 55 needing a two bed or maximum occupancy

- Two-bedroom flat
- Second floor
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £87.70 per week

NEWHOUSE COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 109519
 Pref given to applicants over 55 needing a two bed or maximum occupancy

- Two-bedroom flat
- Ground floor
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £87.70 per week

NORWOOD CRESCENT, BARRY

H4U reference 109131
 Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Four-bedroom house
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Garden/parking

Rent £106.04 per week

PENDINE CLOSE, BARRY

H4U reference 219912
 Suitable for a single person or couple over 55

- One-bed bungalow
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Gardens

 Preference given to applicants who require ground-floor level access shower
Rent £96.54 per week including water and alarm charges

PHILIPPA FREETH COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 973477
 Suit for a single person or couple over 55 – no pets

- Three-bedroom flat
- Second floor (lift)
- Gas central heating
- Double-glazing
- Scheme co-ordinator
- Communal door/gardens

Rent £126.02 pw inc water, heating & service chg

SEVERN AVENUE, BARRY

H4U reference 222581
 Suitable for a single person or couple over 55 – no pets

- One-bedroom flat
- Ground floor
- Central heating
- Double glazing
- Communal gardens

Rent £92.52 per week inc water and alarm chgs
 Preference given to applicants who require ground-floor level access shower

SHAKESPEARE ROAD, BARRY

H4U reference 223200
 Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Two-bedroom house
- Double glazing
- Central heating
- Gardens

Rent £98.63 per week including water charges

THOMPSON STREET, BARRY

H4U reference 1083007
 Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Three-bedroom house
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Enclosed rear garden
- Integral garage

Rent £96.67 per week including service charges

WHITEWAYS, LLANTWIT MAJOR

H4U reference 255629
 Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement

- Two-bedroom house
- Double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Enclosed rear garden

Rent £87.46 per week

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EweMove wins the best newcomer at awards

E WEMOVE were awarded silver for best newcomer at The Estate Agency of the Year Awards 2014, in association with The Sunday Times and The Times and sponsored by Zoopla Property Group.

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LDS House, Cardiff Road, Barry CF63 2BE



- Refurbished offices with parking
- 1,026 sq ft (95.3 sq m) to 2,109 sq ft (196 sq m) NIA
- Prominent roadside location on main arterial route
- Ground floor and first floor can be let independently
- EPC D (77)

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After "an incredible year" with many new branches launching across the UK, rapidly growing sales and letting agent EweMove, a well-received addition to the Vale property market since being set up in March 2014, were "delighted" with a win that rounds off a successful year for the growing business.

On December 5, over 650 leading estate agents from throughout the UK attended a glittering ceremony at The Lancaster London Hotel opposite Hyde Park where the winners of the most highly regarded awards in the estate agency industry were revealed.

The winners were presented with their awards by Michelle Mone OBE, founder of international lingerie brand Ultimo, with TV newscaster Penny Smith acting as compere.

Award winners were decided by a panel of 19 industry experts, who assessed initial entry submissions before conducting an extensive review of the entrants, which included over 150 hours of telephone interviews and mystery shopping exercises. The process was overseen by the Property Ombudsman, Christopher Hamer, and Mark Hayward, managing director of the NAEA acted as Arbitrator.

Now in its 12th year as a dedicated competition, the awards have become widely recognised as the most prestigious and difficult to win. With more entrants than ever before, over 5,000 offices were represented this year.

EweMove, winners of the Newcomer category received the award following success earlier in the

year after winning an Innovation award at the Lettings Agency of the Year Awards and being shortlisted for best property management. Local branch directors of EweMove Vale of Glamorgan, Karen Treweek and Richard Cook commented: "We're delighted to receive this award! It's a real honour for our innovative approach to estate agency to be recognised with such a prestigious award."

"We pride ourselves on working harder than any other agent to deliver results for our clients, we get our sellers' and landlords' homes more interest, more quickly. We also operate a 24/7 service, making sure that any viewing, enquiry, property application or purchase offer is never lost."

"It's obvious really, most people search for houses online when they've finished work, or at weekends – precisely when most other agents are shut. They're missing a trick, as we get lots of enquiries during these periods; so our clients don't miss out."

A website listing all the winning companies with comments from the judges as to why they won can be found at www.estateagencyoftheyear.com or EweMove's summary can be found at <http://estateagencyoftheyear.com/ewe-move/index.html>.

For further information, contact Karen or Richard, EweMove Branch Directors for The Vale of Glamorgan on 01446 349349 or visit EweMove.com/barry.

WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT, AND WHERE?

Mr David Williams – 6 SA Brain and Co Ltd – Caer Worgan, Boverton, Tynewydd Inn, 103 Llanwit Major – Tynewydd Road, Barry – Conversion of existing detached double garage to increase living space via extension link between existing two bedroom semi-detached dwelling and garage.

Ms Ann Rimell – 14 Cold Knap Way, Barry – Extensions to existing bungalow comprising new porch to main entrance and utility room extension off existing kitchen.

R and L Anthony Ltd – Sealand Farm, Heol Las, Wick – Hedgerow removal.

Mr Chris Withey – Plot 1, Orchardleigh, Pen Y Cowbridge Road, Dinas Powys – Amendments to proposed demolition of dwellings – Ogmore by Sea – 2012/00400/RES.

Mr David Hughes – 2 Police House, Higher End, St Athan – Removal of shopfront signage, post.

Jennifer Hill, Vale of Glamorgan Council – Removal of signage currently in situ: two 350mm fascia with two 245mm high halo illuminated lettering and chevron logo; one classroom and its replacement with a demountable building including all necessary ground works and services connections.

Residential development for 21 dwellings.

RBS – 4 Westgate, Cowbridge – Installation of ground mounted photovoltaic solar arrays to provide approximately 5mw generation capacity together with power inverter systems; transformer stations; internal access track; landscaping; deer fencing, CCTV and associated access gate.

Llancaid Solar Farm Ltd – Llancaid Farm, Llancaid – Installation of ground mounted photovoltaic solar arrays to provide approximately 5mw generation capacity together with power inverter systems; transformer stations; internal access track; landscaping; deer fencing, CCTV and associated access gate.

Westside Development Ltd – Plot 1 and Plot 2, River Walk, Cowbridge – Erection of two detached dwellings.

Mr Paul Sullivan – 117 St David's Crescent, Penarth – Extension to an existing dwelling to be used as a kitchen/diner.

Mrs Hayley Clare – 1 Hastings Avenue, Penarth – Construction of three-bedroom detached house in side garden.

Mr Richard Anthony – Blackhall Farm, Blackhall Road, St Brides Major – Removal of hedge row.

Mr A Haynes – 2 Hollywood Close, Barry – Fell and replace Silver Birch.

Mrs C McKay – The Haworths, Llansannor – Single storey conservatory.

Proposed residential development on land to the north and south of the road.

Mr William Rees – 5 Mountjoy Crescent, Penarth – Non material amendment to planning application to remove first floor of approval.

Leckwith Motor Company – Leckwith Motor Company, Leckwith Road, Llandough, Penarth – Proposed residential development on land to the north and south of the road.

Mr Chris Davey – 8 Beach Road, Penarth – Proposed demolition of existing detached garage, proposed split level store/workshop extension to side elevation, proposed gable parapet to front elevation (drawn with previously approved two storey entrance extension and window replacement).

Mr Roger and Mrs Hall – 27 Myrtle Close, Penarth – Single storey garage/store to rear garden.

Mr Rhodri Ellis Owen and Mr Richard Price – Primrose Cottage, Turkey Street, Llanwit Major – Proposed horse stable block and creation of new vehicular/pedestrian access.

Miss Sian-Elin Griffith – 3 Ael y Bryn, Peterston Super Ely – Extend existing front gable and bathroom/porch gable, and associated alterations to windows.

Mr Paul Motte – UWC Atlantic College, St Donats – Amendments to planning application for 2014/01058/FUL.

Commercial Estates Group and Mr JGR Homfray – Land at North West Cowbridge – Detailed permission for the construction of a link road connecting Cowbridge bypass with Llanwit Major including footpaths/cycleways, landscaping and conservatory.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council (B4265 ST BRIDES ROAD (PART) EWENNY) (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2015

1. On 19th January 2015 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:

2. The Order will be known as "The Vale of Glamorgan Council (B4265 St Brides Road (Part) Ewenny) (Road Closure) (Temporary) Order" 2015.

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location B4265 - St Brides Road, Ewenny from its junction with the access road into the quarry to the rear of number 1 Kingswood Close at grid 290072 177011 in a generally south westerly direction to the quarry access at Pontalau at grid 289928 176698. A distance of approximately 325m.

Reason To allow removal and replacement of a railway bridge on behalf of Network Rail.

Duration From 6.00am on Monday 2nd February 2015, until 30 June 2015.

Diversions (for vehicles under 15 feet high) for southwest bound traffic during the above closure will be signed in a north easterly direction along St Brides Road and continuing along this road to the junction of the B4524 Ogmore Road, then turning left at this junction and continuing in a generally south westerly direction and continue along the B4524 along Main Road, through the village of Ogmore-By-Sea, continue along the B4524 through Southerndown continue along this road along Southerndown road, and Bull Hill, to where this road meets the B4265 at St Brides, then turning left onto the B4265 Ewenny Road, continue along the B4265 along Ewenny Road and St Brides Road to the south western point of the closure, and visa-versa.

Diversions (for vehicles over 15 feet high) for south westbound traffic during the above closure will be signed in a north easterly direction along St Brides Road and continuing along this road to the junction of the B4524 Wick Road and turning right into Wick Road, continue along the B4524 Wick Road and Corntown Road through the villages of Ewenny and Corntown, to where this road meets the A48, turn right onto the A48, and follow in an easterly direction along this road to Penre Mayrick, turn right into the B4268, and continue in a southerly direction along this road through the village of Llysnewy to Nash Corner. From Nash Corner continue in a southerly direction along the B4270 to its junction with the B4265 at Llanwit Major then turn right onto the B4265, and continue along this road through Wick and St Brides to the south western side of the closure, and visa-versa.

Pedestrian and emergency vehicle access cannot be maintained during this closure.

Dated this 22nd day of January 2015.

M. E. Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe, CF5 6AA.

Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2015 GORCHYMYN (CAU FFORDD) (DROS DRO) (B4265 ST BRIDES ROAD (RHAN YN UNIG) EWENNI)

1. Ar 19 Ionawr 2015 yr oedd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adran 14(1) Deddf Rheoli Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (ddiwygiadig), wedi gwneud Gorchymyn y mae ei effaith gyffredinol wedi i disgrifio yn yr atodienni isod:

2. Adwaenir y Gorchymyn fel 'Gorchymyn (Cau Ffordd) (Dros Dro) (B4265 St Brides Road (Rhan yn unig) Ewenny) Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2015'.

ATODLEN 1

1. Ni fydd unrhyw un yn gyrru nac yn caniatâu i unrhyw un arall yrru cerbyd modur yn y man a nodwyd yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad B4265 - St Brides Road, Ewenny, o'r gyffordd â ffordd fynedid y chwrel, y tu cefn i 1 Kingswood Close, wrth gyfeirnod grid 290072 177011, ac ymlaen i gyfeiriad cyffredinol y de-orllewin, hyd at y gyffordd y chwrel ym Mhontalun wrth gyfeirnod grid 289928 176698. Rhwng 325m medr yw hynny i gyd.

Rheswm Cyfnod Symud ac ailoso pont reilffordd ar ran Network Rail. O 6.00am ar ddydd Llun 2 Chwefror 2015 hyd 30 Mehefin 2015.

Dargyfeirio (cerbydau llai na 15 troedfedd o uchder) tra bod y ffordd ar gau, bydd traffig sy'n teithio i'r de-orllewin yn cael ei gyfeirio tua'r goleidiol-ddwyrain ar hyd St Brides Road. Bydd yn dilyn y ffordd honno hyd at y gyffordd ag Ogmore Road (B4524), yn troi i'r chwif yn y fan honno ac yn parhau i ddilyn y B4524 i gyfeiriad y de-orllewin ar hyd Main Road drwy bentref Aberogwr. Bydd yn dilyn y B4524 o hyd drwy Southerndown, ar hyd Southerndown Road a thwrdd ardal Bull Hill hyd at y gyffordd a'r B4265 yn Sain Fraid. Bydd yn troi i'r chwif wedyn i Ewenny Road (B4265), ac yn dilyn yr heol honno, ac yna St Brides Road, hyd at ben de-orllewinol y ffordd gaeedig. Bydd y daith yn ôl yn dilyn yr un lwybr yn union ond o chwif.

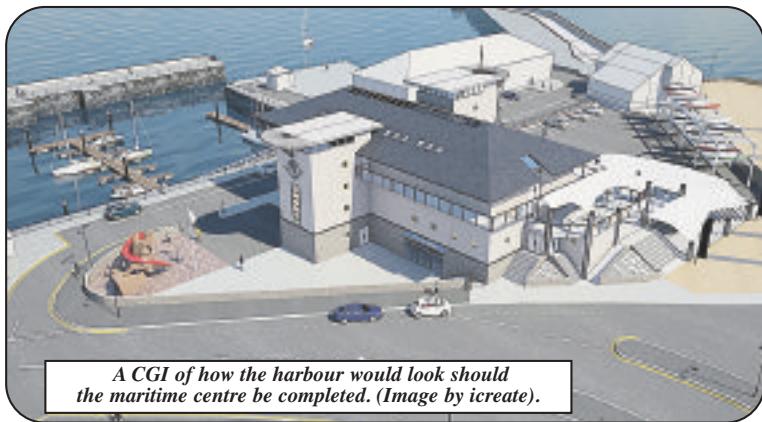
Dargyfeirio (cerbydau dros 15 troedfedd o uchder) tra bod y ffordd ar gau, bydd traffig sy'n teithio i'r de-orllewin yn cael ei gyfeirio tua'r goleidiol-ddwyrain ar hyd St Brides Road. Bydd yn dilyn y ffordd honno hyd at gyffordd Wick Road (B4524), yn troi i'r dde i Wick Road ac yn dilyn Wick Road (B4524), ac yna Corntown Road drwy bentref Ewenny a Chornwall hyd at y gyffordd a'r A48. Bydd yn troi i'r dde i'r A48 yn y fan honno, yn dilyn y ffordd i gyfeiriad y dwyrain hyd at Bentremereig, yn troi i'r dde i'r B4268, ac yn parhau i ddilyn y ffordd honno i gyfeiriad y de drwy bentref Llysnewy hyd at Nash Corner. O'r fan honno, bydd yn dilyn y B4270 i gyfeiriad y de drwy at y gyffordd a'r B4265 yn Llanilltud Fawr ac yn troi i'r dde i'r B4265. Bydd yn dilyn y ffordd honno wedyn drwy'r Wig a Sain Fraid hyd at ochr dde-orllewinol y ffordd gaeedig. Bydd y daith yn ôl yn dilyn yr un lwybr yn union ond o chwif.

Ni fydd yn bosib i gerddwr yna cherbydau argyfwng gael mynediad i'r ffordd tra ei bod ar gau.

Dyddiedig 8 Ionawr 2014.

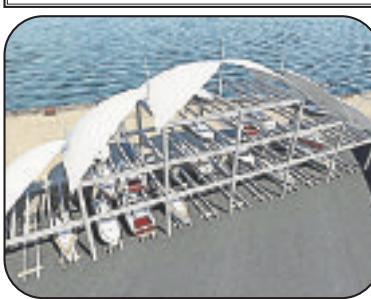
M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpuau, Gwenfô, CF5 6AA.

Porthcawl's marina and harbour plan gets £300K vote of confidence



A CGI of how the harbour would look should the maritime centre be completed. (Image by icreate).

Report by PHILIP IRWIN



ABOVE: The boat rack which has a capacity of 36 boats. (Rack designed by BDML, image by icreate).

A community project that aims to transform the harbour area in neighbouring Porthcawl, has received a vote of confidence – and more importantly, almost £300,000 in cash!

The ultimate aim for the Porthcawl Harbourside project is a flagship maritime building which will house a range of facilities and attractions.

The £300,000 of new money will enable them to make space for another 36 berths for boats and small yachts – an investment that should provide employment for three people.

A director of Porthcawl Harbourside, Michael Clarke, told The GEM that it was a 'Community Interest Company' (CIC) working with 'a range of partners to secure a new maritime centre and thriving well-resourced marina and watersports centre within the emerging Porthcawl Harbour Quarter.'

The old harbour was recently converted into a permanent water berth for 70 boats, in a project run by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC).

The Porthcawl Harbourside group has now been successful in securing £297,000 from the Coastal Communities Fund to enable 'phase 2' to go ahead.

The Coastal Communities Fund is run by the Big Lottery on behalf of UK Government and through the Welsh Government in Wales.

Announcing the awards, the Minister Lesley Griffiths AM congratulated a number of projects, which will share £4,591,612, on their successful bids.

She said: "We want to see vibrant, viable communities all along Wales' fantastic coastline. This fund will support our work to regenerate coastal towns, boosting their economic development as well as their standing as key tourism and cultural destinations."

"The funding will enable those with local knowledge to develop projects addressing the specific issues facing their communities. I look forward to seeing

how these schemes benefit local people and support our wider regeneration vision for Wales."

Michael Clarke said: "We are absolutely delighted that Porthcawl will benefit from £297,597 to further develop the marina/harbour quarter in Porthcawl by increasing boat capacity, providing new water sports activity provision, as well as education facilities for visitors and local people".

The boat capacity will be increased by a harbourside, three-tier racking system that will take 36 boats.

The grant cash will pay for this structure, together with the lifting gear which will winch a boat out of the harbour so it can be placed securely in the rack.

Michael Clarke continued: "This is a huge vote of confidence in 'community led' regeneration and in our ambitions to develop Jennings Building and the proposed maritime centre into a high-quality integrated harbour quarter."

"We are most grateful to the Coastal Communities Fund, to BCBC's communities team, Bic-innovation and local organisations for their generous support and for their courage in supporting us".

Fellow director Stuart Bentley said: "This funding will enable us to create new jobs and support the expansion of existing employment, and the development of new leisure and educational business's operating in the marina and harbour area."

"New equipment will include launch and retrieval facilities to enable boats to be lifted out of the water, plus a range of coastal educational facilities".

This project has been supported by: the Community Economic Development (CED) programme delivered in partnership by a six valleys local authority consortium of: Blaenau Gwent, Bridgend, Caerphilly, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taff and Torfaen. The CED programme is supported by the European Regional Development Fund through the Welsh Government.; Big Lottery Awards for All and WCVAs.

FOOD HYGIENE COURSE IN BARRY

VALE Council-led Barry Communities First will be running a free food hygiene Course for Communities First residents on Wednesday, February 4 (9.30am-4pm) at Castleshield Community Centre, Belvedere Crescent, Barry.

Telephone 01446 709432 or visit www.BarryCommunitiesFirst.org.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council (CLIFF FARM, TREDOGAN ROAD AND CUCKOO MILL LANE, PENMARK) (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2015

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below: -

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location	From the junction at grid 304783 169693 at Pancross in a southerly direction to grid 304925 168799 to the south of Cliff Farm.
Reason	To allow for the installation of high speed broadband cables.
Duration	From 9.00am on Monday 9th February 2015, for a maximum period of 6 months but it is anticipated that the works will be completed by 5.00pm on Monday 2nd March 2015.
Diversions	Signed diversions for southbound traffic will be from the point of closure at Pancross, in a south westerly direction through the village of Llancaunce, to where this road meets the B4265, then turning left and proceeding in a easterly direction along the B4265 to the junction at grid 305342 168181 then turning left towards Penmark, and proceeding in a north easterly direction to the southern end of the closure, and vice versa for northbound traffic. Access for residents will be maintained from one end of the lane or the other.
Location	Tredogan Road, Penmark, from its junction with Croft John for a distance of 30m in an easterly direction.
Reason	To allow for the installation of high speed broadband cables.
Duration	From 9.00am on Monday 9th February 2015 for a maximum period of 6 months but the works are anticipated to take place between 8.00am on Tuesday 3rd March and 5.00pm on Wednesday 4th March 2015.
Diversions	Signed diversions for eastbound traffic will be from the point of closure in an easterly direction along Tredogan Road, then turning left into Kenson Hill, then proceeding in a southerly direction and continuing along this road to the B4265, and turning left, continue along this road to the roundabout where this road meets Tredogan Road, then continue along Tredogan Road to the eastern end of the closure, and vice-versa for westbound traffic.
Location	Cuckoo Mill Lane, from its junction with Tredogan Road in a generally north easterly direction to where it meets the access into Curnix Farm.
Reason	To allow for the installation of high speed broadband cables.
Duration	From 9.00am on Monday 9th February 2015 for a maximum period of 6 months but the works are anticipated to take place between 8.00am on Thursday 5th March 2015 and 5.00pm on Friday 27th March 2015.
Diversions	Signed diversions for north eastbound traffic will be from the point of closure in a south easterly direction to the A4226, and continuing in a generally easterly direction to Waycock Cross, then turning left and proceeding along the Five Mile Lane (Waycock Road), then turning left at The Moulton turning, and proceeding along this road though the village of Moulton to the northern end of the closure, and vice versa for southbound traffic. Access for residents will be maintained from one end of the closure or the other.

NB: Pedestrian access will be maintained through these closures.

Road Closures will only be in operation during the Works

Dated this 22nd day of January 2015.

M. E. Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.



DS: Bydd mynediad i gerddwyr tra bod yr heol ydd hyn ar gau.

Bydd yr heol ydd ar gau tra bod y gwaith yn cael ei wneud yn unig.

Dyddiedig 22 Ionawr 2015.

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.





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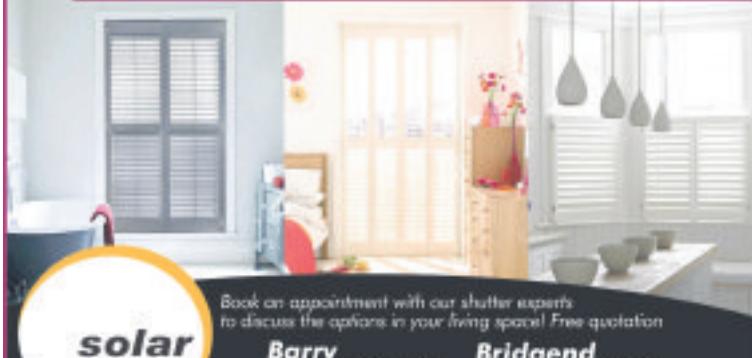
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Birthdays

Happy Birthday
Melanie Morgan
on 27th January
Love & Best Wishes
All your friends at The GEM xxx

Mia Marie Ireland
Happy 9th Birthday on January 22nd
Lots of Love
Mum & Dad, Cara, Nicole, Dylan, Scarlett & Tyler xxx

Dawn Snowden-Hunt
Happy 50th Birthday on 26th January
Love from Mum, Dad, Andrew, Rattana & Mark xxx

Anniversaries

Margaret & Michael Scobie
22nd January 1955
Congratulations on your 60th Diamond Wedding Anniversary.
With much love Sue, Ian & Sean
grandchildren Jason, Gemma, Jamie & great grandson Bailey

Margaret & Raymond Savory
Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary
You are truly inspirational parents.
Love always
Pamela, Samantha & Leigh, Troy, Reece, Rhiannon and Noah. xx

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GEM FAMILY NOTICES**JONES**
Sheila

Passed away peacefully at home on 18th January, aged 74 years. Dearly loved wife of Gerald, loving mum of Alison, Christopher and Adele and proud nana of all her grandchildren. Will be sadly missed. Resting at JR & MF David of St Brides Major, until her funeral at Coya church Crematorium on Thursday, 29 January 2015 at 10.30am.

Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the British Lung Foundation. Black attire optional. Colourful attire welcome. Enquiries telephone 01656 880308.

DAVIES
Viv

Peacefully on January 3rd at the Princess of Wales Hospital Bridgend, Viv of Druids Green, Cowbridge.

Will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

Funeral Service at Coya church Crematorium on Monday, January 26th at 12 noon where friends please meet.

Family flowers only, donations in lieu may be sent to Cancer Research Wales, Velindre Hospital, Whitchurch, Cardiff, CF14 2TL.

WESTCOTT

Ethel

Peacefully at the Princess of Wales Hospital Bridgend, Ethel, much loved wife of the late Ken, loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

Will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

Funeral Service at Coya church Crematorium on Friday, January 30th at 12 noon.

MERRETT
Nick

Peacefully, at home, surrounded by his family, on Sunday 11 January, Nick of Llangua. Beloved husband of Julie and a dearly loved son, father and grandfather.

Funeral Tuesday 27 January. Service and cremation at Coya church Crematorium at 2.15pm where friends please meet.

Family flowers only by request - donations in lieu if desired to either Macmillan Cancer Care or Y Bwthyn Newydd c/o Penybont Funeral Services, Meadow Street, Bridgend, CF31 1HE. Tel: 01656 650831.

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LANG
Hector (Mac)

Sadly passed on 12th January 2015. Much loved husband of Beryl, devoted dad to Suzanne, Martin, Andrea and Lisa. A loving grandfather and great grandfather.

Resting at Park Independent Funeral Directors, 7 Tynewydd Road, Barry until his service at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry on Friday, 23rd January at 11am. Family flowers only please. Donations may be made at the service in memory of Hector to the British Heart Foundation, or sent to the funeral directors.

THE FAMILY OF
MRS EMY ALLBRIGHTON

Would like to give their heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all friends and relatives who attended the funeral of their mother at St Athan Church on Thursday, 15th January, 2015 and for the cards and condolences received.

Special acknowledgements to Rachel Simpson, Curate of St. Athan Church, Mr John James of W. James & Sons Funeral Home, Rhoose, and Nigel, Mary and Chris of Rhoose Social Club.

Mum will be forever in our hearts and thoughts.

McLEAN
Richard Colin

Suddenly and tragically on January 10th at UHW Cardiff, Richard of Llantwit Major. Beloved partner of April, much loved father of Marie, Brandon, Cameron and Declan, dearly loved son of Jim and Tricia and brother of Stuart and Heather. Will be sadly missed be all his family and friends.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday, January 26, service 2.30pm at St. Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major, followed by private interment. Black attire optional, family flowers only may be sent to Funeral Home, donations in lieu, if desired, to Stroke Association, c/o J. James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose CF62 3DZ.

BROWN

Rita Elizabeth (nee Jenkins)

Peacefully after a short illness on 3rd January in the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, Rita, aged 81 years, of Aberthyn, Cowbridge. Devoted wife of late Graham Brown (former owner of

W.A. Brown & Son, Funeral Directors in Llantwit Major) Loving mother to Julie, Caroline and Andrew and a much loved granny to Jonathan, Leah, Rhys and Owen.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, Pembroke House, Llantwit Major until the service at Coya church Crematorium on Friday, 30th January at 2.45pm. Cut flowers please may be sent to the funeral home.

SYNAN
David

Tragically on January 1, David of Llantwit Major, dearly loved son of Liz and Cliff, loving brother of Angharad (Harry), beloved grandson of Ann Llewellyn (Morfa), will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Tuesday, January 27, private service at Bethesda's Fro Chapel, Boverton, followed by public service and cremation at Coya church Crematorium, Bridgend at 2.45pm. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Air Ambulance Wales or R.N.L.I. c/o J. James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

CLEMENTS

Frank

Peacefully at home on January 9th surrounded by his loving family. Frank, formerly of Adamsdown, Cardiff, and well known for his time as school caretaker in Cardiff & Bryn Hafren Lower School, Barry.

Devoted husband to Margaret, much loved dad of Anne and Ian. Respected father-in-law of Nathan and Lisa. An adored and cherished bampy and great bampy to all his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Loving brother of Rita, Jean and all his late brothers & sisters. *Frank will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.*

Resting in the private chapel of The Vale Funeral Home, 181 Court Road, Barry until his Requiem Mass at St Helens RC Church, Wyndham Street, Barry CF62 4ET on Friday, 30th January at 10.45am, followed by interment at Western Cemetery. Immediate family flowers only, donations if desired may be made at the service to Velindre Hospital or Ty Hafan Childrens Hospice. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Lyndsay Ellis 01446 407962.

CLEMENTS
Frank

'Dad always know I love you, life will never be the same, the years will come and go but you'll be remembered each time I speak your name.'

Love always
your Anne x

GEARY
Keith John

Suddenly, but peacefully, on January 4, Keith of Llantwit Major (Councillor of Vale of Glamorgan and Llantwit Major Town Council). Beloved husband of Sylvia, dearly loved father of Emma and Veronica, father-in-law of Paul and Alex and much loved grandfather of Joseph, Adam, Lukas and Ellen.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday, January 30, service 12 noon at St. Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major, followed by private interment. Family flowers only may be sent to the Funeral Home, donations in lieu, if desired, to Diabetes UK c/o J. James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

HUTCHESON
Rachel Margaret Lloyd

Ray, as she was known, passed away peacefully on Sunday, January 11th, at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend. Rachel, loving wife of the late Lester, beloved mother of Catrin and Judith, mother-in-law to Greg and Gareth and a proud and loving nanny.

Resting at the private chapel of Thomas Brothers Funeral Services, Cowbridge, until her service at Coya church Crematorium, Bridgend on Monday, 26th January at 3.45pm.

Family flowers only. Donations may be made to Macmillan Cancer Support.

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RHIF 1 A RHIF 3, SILSTWN)
GORCHYMYN AILGYFERIO
LLWYBRAU CYHOEDDUS 2014

Ar 9 Ionawr 2015, cadarnhaodd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg y Gorchymyn uchod a wnaethpwyd ym ddim a dan aran 119 Deddf Prifyrdd 1980.

Eiffaith y Gorchymyn a gadarnhawyd, fydd ailygfeirio rhannau o'r llwybrau troed cyhoeddus sydd wedi'u nodi yn yr Atodlen ac a welir ar fap y Gorchymyn.

Bydd copiâu o'r Gorchymyn a gadarnhawyd a map y Gorchymyn, i'w gweld yn rhad ac am ddilim yn ystod yr wythnos yn y cyfeiriad isod, rhwng 9:00am a 4:00pm o 22 Ionawr 2015 hyd 5 Mawrth 2015. Bydd copiâu o'r map a'r Gorchymyn wrth ym fan honno am £4.50 yr un.

Daw'r Gorchymyn hwn i rym ar 22 Ionawr 2015. Serch hynny, os bydd unrhyw un sy'n tyb iddi gael cam o'i herwydd yn dymuno holi yngylch y diliwrwyd y Gorchymyn, neu unrhyw ddarpariaeth ynddo, am y tyb nad yw o fewn pwerau'r Ddeddf uchod, ynteu na chydymffurwyd a'i gofynion neu'r rheoliadau a wnaed o dan i gadarnhau'r Gorchymyn, bydd hawl i'r unigolyn hwnnw'n wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys o dan baragraff 2 Atodlen 2 o'r Ddeddf drwy weithrediad paragraff 5 Atodlen 6, cyn pen ywthnos o'r 22 Ionawr 2015.

Dyddiedig 22 Ionawr 2015

Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Datblygu, Swyddfeidd y Dociau, Heol yr Isffordd, Y Barri, CF63 4RT



NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION
OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH
NOS 1 & 3 GILESTON)
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION
ORDER 2014

On the 9th day of January 2015 The Vale of Glamorgan Council confirmed the above Order made under section 119 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to divert parts of the public footpaths as set out in the Schedule and shown in the Order map.

A copy of the confirmed Order and Order map may be seen at the address below free of charge between 9:00am and 4:00pm on weekdays from 22nd January 2015 until 5th March 2015. Copies of the Order and map may be bought here at a price of £4.50.

This Order comes into force on the 22nd January 2015, but if any person aggrieved by the Order desires to question its validity or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the above Act, or on the ground that any requirement of that Act or any regulation made under the Act has not been complied with in relation to the confirmation of the Order, he/she may, under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from 22nd January 2015 make an application to the High Court.

Dated this 22nd January 2015

Director of Development Services, Docks Offices, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT

WELSH stage star Connie Fisher was the special guest for St Richard Gwyn's annual prizegiving evening, which celebrated the many and varied achievements of the Barry students during the previous school year.

The evening began with a welcome by head boy Kieran Horrigan, followed by an opening prayer from Vicar General Canon Joe Boardman.

A cornet solo played by Cerian Reynish and a musical item from the SRG Band (Oscar McNaughton, Thomas Dunstan, Callum Aust, Aron Cozens and Jade Clarke) were enjoyed by all.

The special guest for the evening was Connie Fisher, star of the *Sound of Music* stage show, and we were treated to an enlightening talk about her climb to fame and how she pursued her



dream despite numerous setbacks.

Connie was wonderful with the students and carefully posed when presenting them with their awards so they could have a special photo to remind them of their achievements.

The evening closed with head girl Rosanna Ellis thanking the special guests and all concerned for an inspiring evening.



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The Vale of Glamorgan Council VARIOUS ROADS, CARDIFF AIRPORT (VARIOUS PROHIBITIONS, RESTRICTIONS AND LIMITATIONS TO VEHICLE AND PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENTS) (ANTI-TERRORISM) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2015

The Vale of Glamorgan Council, following the recommendation of the Chief Constable of Police, and in exercise of its powers as Highway Authority under Sections 14(1) and 22C of the Road traffic regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers, for the purposes of avoiding, reducing, or reducing the likelihood of, danger connected with terrorism, intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an order the general effect of which will be to introduce prohibitions, restrictions and limitations in those locations and during those times specified below:

Pursuant to the powers afforded by section 22C of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the use of the public highway, by all classes of user, with the exception of use by a) vehicles of the Emergency Services or b) other classes of user to be agreed with the Chief Constable South Wales Police in the interests of Airport Security and Public safety will be limited as shown by temporary markings, physical barriers and signs in so far as such use may be restricted by the above Act.

The powers described above may be exercised so such an extent that any provision of any existing Permanent Order, or the provisions of this Temporary Order, may be commenced, suspended, varied or revived during its duration.

Except as provided by this Order:

No person shall proceed on foot or cause or permit any vehicle or cycle to proceed, stop or wait at any time, in the location specified within the Schedule below.

SCHEDULE

Location All roads between the roundabout where the airport access road meets the A4226/B4265 and the junctions where the two airport access roads meet Port Road.

Footpaths (Public Rights of Way) Penmark No's 9, 9A, 10, 15, 21, together with Restricted By-Way known as Penmark No 18 throughout their lengths

Reasons These prohibitions, restrictions and limitations are made for the purpose of avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the roads; avoiding, reducing, or reducing the likelihood of, danger connected with terrorism or for a purpose relating to danger or damage connected with terrorism (as defined in Section 1 of the Terrorism Act 2000).

Duration From 18.01 hours on 30th January 2015 for a maximum period of 18 Months.

Alt Route The diversions for south east bound traffic will be from the roundabout adjacent to the Aircraft Maintenance Facility, then in a south easterly direction along the A4226 to the roundabout at the junction with Port Road then in a south westerly direction along Port Road, to the Airport and vice-versa.

None for footpath closures.

Dated this 22nd day of January 2015

M. E. Punter
Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council
The Alps, Wenvoe
CF5 6AA



Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2015

GORCHYMYN (GWRTHDERFYSGAETH) (DROS DRO) (GWAHARD CERDDWYR A CHERBYDAU A CHYFYNGU AR EU SYMUDIADAU) FFYRDD AMRYWIOL, MAES AWYR CAERDYDD 2015

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan ddilys argymhelliedd Prif Gwnstabl yr Heddyl, ac arfer ei bwerau fel Awdurdod Prifyrdd o dan Adranau 14(1) a 22C Ddeddf Rheoli Traffig y Ffyrdd 1984, a phob pŵer galluogi arall, yn bwriadu gweinef gorchymyn ymhym o leiaf saith niwrnod ar ôl dyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn. Diben y gorchymyn hwnnw fydd un ai osgoi, lleihau ynteu lleihau'r posiblwrwyd a berygl mewn perthynas â therfysgaeth. Ei effaith gyffredinol fydd cyflwyno gwaharddau a chyfngiadau yn y lleoliadau ac yn ystod yr adegau a bennewyd isod:

Yn unol â'r pŵerau o dan aran 22C Ddeddf Rheoli Traffig y Ffyrdd 1984, bydd pob dosbarth o ddefnyddwyr, ac ethirio (a) cyrbydau'r Gwasanaethau Brys (b) unrhyw ddosbarthiadau eraill ym Mae'r Gwnstabl Heddyl De Cymru'n cytuno i'w heithri'n er mwyn cadw'r Maes Awyr a'r cyhoedd yn ddiogel, yn cael ei rywstro rhag defnyddio'r briffordd ymhoeddu. Bydd pob rhwystri i'r briffordd yn cael ei nodi â marciau, atalfeydd ac arwyddion dros dro ac yn digwydd i'r graddau a ganiateir o dan y Ddeddf uchod yn unig.

Gellir defnyddio'r pŵerau a ddisgrifwyd uchod i gychwyn, gohirio, amrywio neu ailygchwyn darpariaethau unrhyw Orchymyn Parhaol sy'n bodoli eisoes neu'r Gorchymyn Dros Dre a sylw tra perp.

Ac ethirio fel y darperir drwy'r Gorchymyn hwn:

Ni fydd unrhyw un yn cerdded nac yn perni nac yn caniatâu i gerbyd na beic symud, stopio neu aros yn y lleoliadau a bennewyd yn yr Atodlen isod.

ATODLEN

Lleoliad Pob ffordd rhwng y gylchfan lle y mae ffordd fynediad i'r maes awyr yn cwrrd â'r A4226/B4265 a'r cyffyrdd lle y mae'r ddwy ffordd fynediad i'r maes awyr yn cwrrd â Port Road.

Llwybrau Troed (Hawliau Tramwy Cyhoeddus) Pen-marc rhifau 9, 9A, 10, 15, 21 a'r Ffordd Ddilidram Cyfyngedig a adwaenir fel llwyb'r Pen-marc rhif 18, ar eu hyd.

Rhesymau Diben y gwharddau a'r cyfngiadau hyn fydd un ai osgoi, lleihau ynteu lleihau'r posiblwrwyd o berygl mewn perthynas â therfysgaeth (fel y'i diffinir yn Adran 1 Ddeddf Therfysgaeth 2000).

Cyfnod O 06:01pm ar 30 Ionawr 2015 am 18 mis ar y mywaf.

Llwyb'r arall Bydd traffig sy'n teithio tua'r de-ddwyrain yn cael ei ddalgyfeirio o'r gylchfan ger y Cyfelestra Cynnal a Chadw Awyrnau, i gyfeiriad y de-ddwyrain, ar hyd yr A4226 hyd at y gylchfan wrth y gyffordd â Port Road. Bydd yn symud ymlaen wedyn i gyfeiriad y de-olweni ar hyd Port Road, i'r maes awyr. Bydd traffig o'r cyfeiriad arall yn dilyn yr un llwyb'r yn union ond o chwif.

Ni fydd llwyb'r amgen ar gyfer defnyddwyr y llwyb'r gaewyd.

Dyddiedig 22 Ionawr 2015

M. E. Punter
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpu, Gwenfô
CF5 6AA

Club's plan to get more girls on the golf course



ABOVE: Megan Cullinane is the St Andrews Major Golf Club's junior champion.

Hockey team's magnificent seven

WHILE Penarth played all year, Hockey Club's 2nd XI had their unbeaten record preserved by the frozen tundra of Treforest, the senior team roared back into Davis Wood Hockey League action by crushing old rivals Cardiff & Met at home, winning 7-3.

Despite the arrival of winter in the Vale, Penarth were able to welcome their opponents to Colcot Sports Centre as they looked to build on the 6-1 victory claimed over Cardiff Medics before the Christmas break.

The home side started the game very slowly and Cardiff capitalised by catching them in possession and breaking quickly to open the scoring.

The Bears, however, responded quickly, equalising in short order thanks to the ever-reliable Phil Lane, who slotted past the Cardiff 'keeper following a swift counter attack.

The rest of the half proved evenly matched, but Penarth went into the interval 2-1 down after Cardiff again made the most of some poor defending to retake the lead late on.

Some stern words in the halftime huddle clearly fired the home side, as Penarth came out all guns blazing for the second period and produced some of the best hockey they have

A CURRENT national campaign to get more girls involved in sport is being supported by a Vale golf club.

What's more, John Hastings, the teaching professional at St Andrews Major Golf Club, is of the opinion that girls pick up important parts of the game quicker than boys.

He said: "Girls are a lot easier to teach because they are not so pre-occupied with hitting the ball vast distances as boys and young men are."

John believes there are many girls who would take up the game if they knew what opportunities exist and if they had other girls to practise and play with.

For that reason, he has decided to offer local girls between seven and 14 years a 'starters' lesson free of charge, for the rest of this month and through February.

If they enjoy the experience, they can join one of the courses that John offers at the club, with the long-term goal of bringing them to either a good club, county or even

international level, depending on their ability and commitment.

St Andrews Major GC already has two promising girl members. Holly Pitcock (16) won the Shelter Cymru Welsh Open at Celtic Manor and Megan Cullinane (aged 11) won the club's junior championship against a field of 17 boys.

John feels that St Andrews, which has recently become a nine-hole starter course is the perfect place to launch their golfing careers.

He added: "We have a five-year plan to develop young girl golfers in both the physical and mental sides of the game."

"Golf is an aerobic exercise and, coupled with the walking the game demands, you can burn around 1,500 calories over 18 holes."

"The health benefits are obvious and the opportunity of forming friendships through golf is another genuine reason for taking up the game".

For more information, contact John on 07761 137265 or e-mail info@standrewsmajorgolfclub.com

Football clubs merge to improve coaching levels

TWO local football clubs have merged, and they intend to offer excellent standards of coaching for boys and girls in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Barry Athletic FC and Vale Ladies & Girls FC have signed an official FAW affiliation agreement to merge, but will keep their names.

Barry Athletic FC were formed in 1975 and this year will celebrate their 40th anniversary with a series of events.

The 1st XI travel to Cardiff University on

January 24 looking to extend their recent run of

good form and avenge a

home defeat earlier in the season.

The Seconds hope to have better luck with the weather as they host one of the many Whitchurch sides that proliferate in De Cymru 2.

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability.

Training takes place on the artificial turf at Barry Sport Centre every Wednesday, with the juniors in action between 6-7pm and seniors between 7-8pm.

Further information can be obtained from club secretary Dave Stevens via d_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk

CL

CALLING ALL CLUB OFFICIALS!
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Sports under-9s get bragging rights

IN THE third derby of the season between the closest of rivals, it was Bridgend Sports under-9s who claimed the bragging rights over Bridgend Athletic, and deservedly so for a team performance full of discipline and determination.

The two previous games between the sides had ended with one victory for the Athletic and one draw. This result levelled the series of matches and showed how much the young Sports squad has developed over the season to date, especially when consideration is given to the fact that a number of players were absent through injury or illness on the day.

The Athletic won the toss and started the game with a run from deep at the Sports defence; the attack was quickly brought to a halt by the well-organised defence of the Sports. A loose pass was snapped up by Tyron Davies and the ball

was soon worked quickly upfield, with all Sports players supporting and passing for Joel Rogers to break the Athletic defence to claim the first score of the game.

In a typical local derby, defence dominated for a period, as play edged to and fro before Bridgend Athletic's Tristan James unlocked the scoreboard, as he raced across field and down the touch line to bring the scores level at one try a piece.

Determined not to be out-scored, Bridgend Sports hit back after a run from Dewi Worrall, he passed to Joel Rogers who jinxed and outsmarted the defence to create space and provide the final pass to Iestyn John who scored near the corner for the Sports to take a 2-1 halftime lead.

In the second half, the Athletic levelled early as Tristan James showed his pace down the wing again to score. It is a mark of a good side in how it is able to respond to any setback. The young Sports side responded immediately as Tyron Davies cut his way through the Ath's

line for his team to regain the lead.

The young blue and whites then really stepped up their game and showed excellent team spirit as they worked together to thwart every Bridgend Athletic attack.

Ben King put in the outstanding tackle of the day, as he put his body on the line five metres from his own line to deny the Athletic a certain score and secure an important ball.

The Sports players then combined well as Dewi Worrall, Cian John, Alex Stimpson and Tyron Davies took play up into the Athletic half and then sent Mackenzie Dent on a powerful charge that

almost led to a further score.

The Athletic then forced the Sports back into their own half, but further Sports attacks ensued as Ben King, Dewi Worrall, Rhys Wilson, Tyron Davies, Thomas Coles and Mackenzie Dent all made good ground with some direct running, before the ball was worked along the line for Cian John to show his opponents a clean pair of heels to score a deserved try our wide, for the home side to lead 4-2.

Bridgend Athletic tried to hit back but were kept at bay by determined tackling from Callum Lewis, Dewi Worrall, Ben King, Alex

Stimpson, Thomas Coles and the ever-present Tyron Davies for the home team.

In the final minutes of the game, the Sports attacked following a good break from Joel Rogers and then a couple of close range runs from Rhys Wilson and Ieuan Pilliner.

Despite great effort, no further scores followed and the Sports deservedly claimed the spoils this time with a 4-2 win.

It was a just reward for their teamwork and hard work in tackling the opposition to secure possession and then retain it, to deny their opponents the ball.

SP

Sports denied by Bryncethin

BRIDGEND Sports under-15s made the short trip to Bryncethin for what was always going to be a tough game.

However, like last week, the Sports once again demonstrated their good defensive qualities as Bryncethin could not find a way to break through the Sports solid defence.

But, inevitably the Sports defence couldn't stand firm for much longer and after a period of pressure the hosts

scored a short distance try to the right of the posts. Nevertheless, after conceding the first try of the match, the Sports were gradually making yards which brought them into the game.

Bryncethin had most of the territory early on and this helped their bright start to the game.

holding a good defensive line.

For large parts of this half, it was looking like the Sports would close out this game to claim a vital win but with roughly 10 minutes remaining the hosts put a dent in this hope as they upped the ante with a period of sustained pressure deep inside the Sports' 22.

Bryncethin stretched the Sports defence to the full and this created a large gap to the right of the Sports defence.

Bryncethin then played the ball to their right winger who was in plenty of space to put the home side 10-7 in front.

Despite the Sports' best efforts to regain the lead, Bryncethin then sealed the match with a further try to run out victors, 15-7.

The Sports ran a good Bryncethin side close and hopefully the boys can claim their revenge on Bryncethin by winning the more important encounter in the semi-final.

TP

BARRY AND DISTRICT MEN'S SKITTLE LEAGUE

DIVISION 1:

Blue Monkey (D.McCarthy 28) 270, Bunker Boys (S.Western 35) 279; Bunker Boys (R.Bennett, J.Spur, S.Jeynes 24) 273, Ex-Servicemen (D.Stevens 31) 257; Colcot Boys (T.Sherrin 29) 281, Park Rangers (R.Webb 25) 258; Mighty Dockers (M.Conway, S.Conway 31) 303, Geest (D.Hawkins, L.Galsworthy 29) 301; The Hairy Lemons (R.Ryles 27) 265, Mighty Dockers (G.Gurd, M.Conway, J.Conway 26) 282; West End Stars (B.Aldred 28) 265, Blue Monkey (M.Underdown 30) 266.

Division 2: Abercrafte (D.Arnold 30) 268, Sea View (N.Elson, B.Belby 29) 301; BP Breakaways (J.Mills 32) 273, Exiles (F.Coughlan 27) 244; Buffs (A.Kemp 27) 272, Willie Wombles (J.M.Parsons, B.Gratton 26) 241; Road Runners (I.Hill 26) 238, Posties (R.Harding 26) 253; Tynny Fliers (P.Jones 28) 296, Barry Social (H.Burrows 29) 289; Witchill Poachers (R.Ashby 34) 325, The Royalists (M.Durman 41) 342.

Division 3: Billy Bluebirds (G.Norris 32) 279, Castle Boys (K.Eveleigh 31) 260; Commandaches'2' (N.Watkins 29) 232, C.U.D. (P.Palmer 29) 281; The Rejects (P.Townsend, M.Dawe 32) 331, Cannon Balls (G.Currie 36) 319.

Allform Cup (week commencing February 2): Monday - Mighty Dockers v Ex-Servicemen; Tuesday - Sea View v Barry Social. Both matches to be played at the Wyndham Cons Club.

Holme Tower Trophy - Geest v Bunker Boys, Monday, February 2, Park Hotel; winners to play Billy Bluebirds on Thursday, February 5 at Sea View Club; British v Blue Monkey, Wednesday, February 4, Liberal Club; 49'ers v The Merrymen, Thursday, February 5, Witchill Hotel; 'H' Bells v Witchill Poachers, Thursday, February 5, King William IV.

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Bridge results

RESULTS for the Vale of Glamorgan bridge club for January 19:

1st Kevin Maddox & Mike Best 68.65 per cent, 2nd Vida Halford & Glyn Williams 66.27, 3rd Debbie & Simon Richards 60.71.

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Rhoose Lifeguards host 'the Vale speed relays'



Plenty for Evan to smile about

LLANCARFAN'S Evan Williams, who is the leading trainer at Ludlow, had plenty to smile about at the Welsh borders track last Thursday.

His *Firebird Flyer* won the 'Royal Highness the Prince Of Wales Challenge Trophy Amateur Riders' Handicap Chase' and his promising *Armchair Theatre* took the Ludlow Intermediate National Hunt Conditional Jockeys and Amateur Riders' flat race.

Firebird Flyer, ridden by Conor Orr, won by six lengths from Firm Order odds of 4-1 and *Armchair Theatre*, partnered by Lewis Gordon, accounted for Henry Daly's *HeresMyNumber*.

Evan said: "To be fair to *Firebird Flyer* he ran a good race to finish fourth at Haydock last time he ran, so he came here in good form. It's great for Conor as it was his first winner and I thought he gave it a sensible ride."

prize to win today, though, so we are not complaining."

On *Armchair Theatre*, Evan said: "Lewis Gordon guided him to an impressive win on the horse's racecourse debut. He's a horse we have always thought the world of, but because he's quite a narrow horse, we struggle to keep condition on him. But make no mistake he is a very talented horse."

Evan's stable jockey Paul Moloney also had plenty to smile about. He had a double for West Wales trainer Rebecca Curtis.

The first leg was initiated when *Ballyhollow* came home ahead of Evan's *Still Believing* in the Ludow Racetrack Bookmakers Mares' Handicap Hurdle and the second when the well fancied

Scorpiancer landed the Ludlow Maiden Hurdle.

Paul, who is the top rider at Ludlow, has now ridden 44 winners there, and most of them for Evan, who brought his total of Ludlow winners to 56.

PAUL'S TAUNTON DOUBLE

Paul Moloney stable jockey to Llancarfan's Evan Williams landed a double for his boss at Taunton last Saturday.

Paul took the opening EBF Stallions' National Hunt Novice Hurdle on *Padge*, the 5-4 favourite, who won by a neck from *Quinlano*, and later took the Bathwick Tyres Taunton Handicap

"As they do in these amateur rider races, they went at strong gallop and the race fell apart. I think that was what it was down to more than anything but Conor rode a nice waiting race. I think the horse will get it from the handicapper now and will probably struggle when he goes up in the weights."

"We've run him in better races in the past and he's not been good enough. It was a good

RECENTLY, Rhoose Lifeguards hosted an afternoon of team relay races based on surf lifesaving events at Barry Leisure Centre.

The competition entitled 'Vale of Glamorgan Speed Relays' saw junior, senior and masters teams from Sker, Llantwit Major, Pen-y-bont, Southerndown and Rhoose take part in races including obstacle, manikin carry, rope throw, fin and medley events.

With each competitor in a team racing a pool length or 25 metres in events, the emphasis was on quick and 'speedy' races which kept the momentum and energy going throughout the afternoon. This was a great 'warm-up' for upcoming Welsh championships coming up in February.

Rhoose Lifeguards would like to thank all of the teams for taking part and for all of the volunteers who helped with timekeeping and organisational duties.

JF

BARRY Athletic award, where FitM8 commented: "I love my Tennis Club works presents a tennis racquet hard to develop and certificate to an outstanding mini or junior player each month. The tennis club's junior development officer, Penny Mickelsen, has been the chief link between the club and the wider community, and she was surprised at the junior Christmas party with a presentation of flowers and award from FitM8 as 'outstanding community partner'.

They range from one-off raffle donations, helping to raise funds for the volunteer-run club, to event support (such as the Bakeoff supported by the Vale Cake Boutique, Barry Island Café Coastal Coffee, and local Pampered Chef Franchisee), and to the successful community partnership it enjoys with local company FitM8.

Thanks to the partnership, Barry Athletic Tennis Club can now offer a regular player of the month

commented: "I love my Tennis Club works presents a tennis racquet hard to develop and certificate to an outstanding mini or junior player each month. The tennis club's a result of my involvement."

"Seeing players enjoying themselves and developing a love of the game thanks to the small input I can have is hugely rewarding in itself, so the award really was the icing on the cake to mark the end of a thoroughly fulfilling year."

PM

Table tennis sessions

COWBRIDGE Leisure Centre is now hosting community table tennis sessions for anyone interested in taking up the sport or developing their skills.

All ages and skill levels are encouraged to come along. The sessions will be delivered by a qualified coach as part of the active young people's community sessions in the Vale.

For those simply looking for a new hobby, people are more than welcome to just turn up and have a game.

The sessions will run on Wednesdays from 4.30pm to 5.30pm and will cost £2 per person.

For further information please contact 5x60 Officer, Steffan Williams, on 07702 479 672.



Penny surprised by her award!

BARRY Athletic award, where FitM8 commented: "I love my Tennis Club works presents a tennis racquet hard to develop and certificate to an outstanding mini or junior player each month. The tennis club's junior development officer, Penny Mickelsen, has been the chief link between the club and the wider community, and she was surprised at the junior Christmas party with a presentation of flowers and award from FitM8 as 'outstanding community partner'.

The tennis club regularly links with local small businesses, providing mutually beneficial platforms for promotion and services.

They range from one-off raffle donations, helping to raise funds for the volunteer-run club, to event support (such as the Bakeoff supported by the Vale Cake Boutique, Barry Island Café Coastal Coffee, and local Pampered Chef Franchisee), and to the successful community partnership it enjoys with local company FitM8.

Thanks to the partnership, Barry Athletic Tennis Club can now offer a regular player of the month

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Barry Thirds make progress in comfortable trophy victory

BARRY Third XV entertained St Peters in the preliminary round of the Ninian Stuart Trophy on a cold January afternoon, looking for their first win of the season.

Selector Ken Chow and manager Frank Greig made several changes, handing a first appearance of the season to prop Glyn Pirso and wing Joe Chucas, while also recalling Martin Tanner and Luke O'Sullivan from injury. Joe Bertera and Nathan Davies awaited their debuts from the bench.

The inclement weather did not help proceedings to begin with for either side, as the muddy ground, swirling wind and slippery ball made it difficult for any flow of the game.

St Peters appeared to cope better at first, making use of the slope to dominate possession and territory, but their attempts at assaulting the Barry line were

repelled by some typically stout tackling from the home side, led by captain Lloyd Jones and his back row partners O'Sullivan and Jon Morris.

Neither side could find a breakthrough in the first half, as Dave Evans and his opposite number both missed kickable penalty opportunities, while both teams also had a member visiting the bin for a minor disagreement in the corner.

Evans' misfortune with the boot continued as he failed with the difficult conversion.

The Barry scrum was now dominant after the introduction of James Sullivan and later on Chris Deyes, and this platform allowed the home side to lay siege to the St Peters line, using the slope perfectly to their advantage.

The only way for the visitors to relieve the pressure was via the boot and from one such clearance kick they found winger Mike Jones, who comically dropped the ball on the floor before falling flat on his face.

Comedy aside, Barry were looking for a second score that would put the tie to bed, and it duly came when O'Sullivan sniped from the base of the scrum, accelerated and dove through to score under the posts. Evans added the extras to make it 12-0.

Barry would continue their domination in the dying embers of the game, and after Pirso was denied a score from a well-worked maul, the green-and-whites did have the final say in the last play of the game.

From a St Peters scrum on their five metre line, the ball spilled out from the back, and Morris was alert to dive on the loose ball to score his first try of the season.

Evans' conversion rounded off a good day's work for the 3rd XV to record their first victory of the season.

The 1st XV will visit Cowbridge this weekend, while the 2nd XV host Clwb Rygbi and the 3rd XV travel to Taffs Well.

Jodi Bowles had the thankless task of picking up the gloves with the late withdrawal of Harold through illness, but put in great shift when replaced by Saunders in goals.

Danielle Speight and Booth showed how important it is to have substitutes as they came on and both put in a solid shift.

Well done ladies - with very little football being played lately it was nice to see the red and blacks winning again.

LS

KC

Gymnasts enjoy medal success!



Ffion and Hana with their medals.



Lara Watkins.

THERE was success for two Barry YMCA gymnasts who participated in the South Central Levels and National Challenge Cup competition.

Ffion Byrne (17) became the South Central Area National Challenge Cup Champion and also claimed gold on vault, beam and floor.

On the opposite end of the age spectrum, six year old Hana Davies competed for the first time in the South Central Area Levels competition. She successfully performed lots of new skills including a new floor exercise to become the overall champion and also claimed gold on vault, bars, beam, floor and range and conditioning.

Ffion was in action again when she was selected to represent the South Central area in the Level 3 category at the Alpha Factor.

For further information regarding the gymnastics opportunities available at Barry YMCA please call 01446 724001 or visit the Facebook page www.facebook.com/ymcabarry.

KD

FUNERAL OF RUGBY STAR

THE funeral of former Wales Rugby League international, Paul Morgan of Pencoed, who died on January 12, takes place on Friday, January 23 at St David's Church, Neath at 2.15pm, followed by burial at 3pm in St Catwg's Church, Cadoxton, Neath.

Third round throws up some intriguing games

LAST week saw the third round of the Barry Chess Club Championships, as 16 players took part in some interesting games.

The league is now starting to spread out with the players who you would expect to be playing for the title rising to the top. This also means that most players will now be playing against other club members who have returned similar results in the first two rounds.

The player who is out of position in reference to his lowly rating is Windsor Lewis. Windsor may ratings but after an excellent performance against Ken Hannah he earned a draw, although Ken had a win in the endgame but couldn't find it with the clock ticking. Windsor now finds himself in the heady position of fourth place and leading the Bowl section by a whole point.

Our two latest recruits, father and daughter Nick and Pagona Mavroyneneas, were always going to have tough games against their more experienced opponents. Nick missed a winning idea against Chris Green and Pagona was a piece up against Martin Ricketts; the latter game was a tight encounter.

On top board Craig Woolcock made a tactical error early on and Steve Cunliffe missed a win and had to settle for perpetual check. This allows Ashley Davis to take a half point lead at the top of the table after his win against Sam White; Ashley remains the only player on 100 per cent.

Towards the bottom end of the table Dave Mahoney and John Stephenson had a good battle - John was up on material but had to go for perpetual check.

Elsewhere there was a good win for the Barry Bosons, beating the Aberdare Wasps by 4.5 to 0.5. This moves the Bosons up to second place in division 1; unfortunately the Cardiff Castles beat the Nelson Rhinos 4-1 to stretch their lead to two points, although the Barry Camelots and North Cardiff Woodpushers are still in the fight a further half point behind.

In division 4 the Gambits entertained the St Johns' College Neutrinos. In the previous four seasons we had beaten the Neutrinos convincingly in all eight previous matches. However this season we lost in the away game back in September and repeated the result in the second match, losing 3.5-1.5.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY. The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at: barrychessclub.yolasite.com.

Phil Jones

Barry and District ladies skittle league

LATEST results for week commencing January 5:

First division: Allsorts (B Jones 27) 292, Coppers (J Williams 31) 296; Colcot Ladies (H Edwards 24) 224, SV Gals (C Gaffney 30) 276; Red Admiral (B Smith 28) 253, Barry Stars (D James 30) 266; Space Finders (M Clark 33) 310, Castaways (W Shaw 33) 262; Cigar Ladies (A McCarthy 34) 316, Pila Palas (S Bennet 33) 296; Bakers Dozen (N Lewis 25) 242, Family Affair (J Waldon, S John, V A Hold, S Wilson 25) 252; Special Angels (L Pearce 29) 250, Family and Friends (J Crompton 24) 223.

Second division: Strikers (R Phillips 25) 246, Roller Coasters (B Maffey, M Burgess 25) 217; Vixens (K Thomas, M Marks 27) 273, Witchill Widows (M Curry 27) 266; Bobby's Girls (J Barnett 29) 275, Divas (E Conway 28) 239; Castle Bandits (D Collard 28) 224, After Eights (P Bryant 27) 260; Cad Conillies (B Heard 27) 282, SV Lights (D Masterman 25) 222; Breakaways (B Thurston 27) 282, Witchill Weebies (A Read 31) 223.

Third division: Odd Bods (S Ellis 24) 175, Twilights (C Sims 24) 190; Wyndham Witches (C Green 31) 255, Off The Rails (J Allen 25) 236; La Belles (E Cordy 33) 308, BFFs (J Harvey, L Thomas 20) 197; S V Ladies (N Barry 30) 281, Westenders (M Condon 29) 273; Lil's Devils (L Bowsher 31) 261, Hill Billies (E Anzani 26) 226; Ecetera (M Jones 26) 255, Dolly Mixtures (L Marsh, T Rowsell 26) 226; Special Angels (L Pearce 29) 250, Family and Friends (J Crompton 24) 223.

Fourth division: Boozzy Birds (L Underdown 27) 257, Fallen Angels (C Phillips 26) 199.

Fifth division: Barry Ravers (J Germon 28) 213, Smurfs (E Dee 26) 239; Merry Makers (H 123; Guardian Angels (D Davies 24) 215, Ling 22) 173, Socialites Persuaders (C Organ 26) 212.

Cricket club's anniversary

THIS year Barry Athletic cricket club will be celebrating their 125th anniversary and have arranged a celebration dinner at The Masonic Hall, Barry for Saturday, April 18; further details will be published in due course.

They are also in the process of arranging some celebration games throughout the season, as this year marks 30 years since the club won the Welsh Cup by beating Gowerton at St Helens, Swansea.

Senior indoor nets start on Thursday, January 29, at the new indoor cricket centre on Penarth Road, Cardiff, from 7pm-8pm.

MR